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Simplest Washer Known-No More Stooping,

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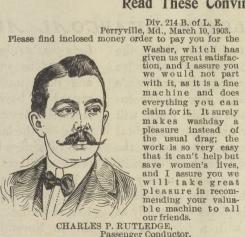
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CHAS. 1



CHAS, LAROCQUE

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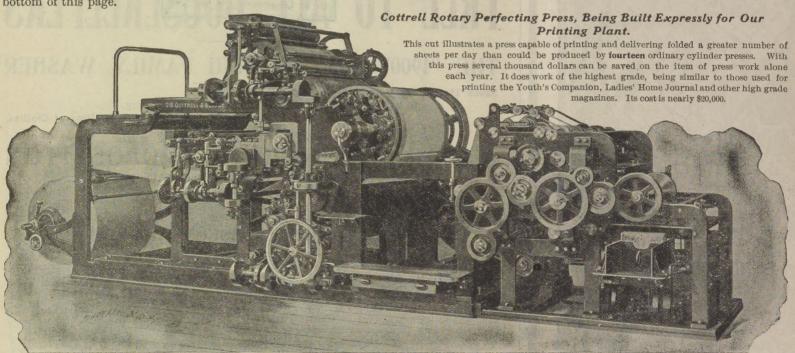
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# A Great Printing Press which is to Revolutionize Magazine Making Now Being Built for Our Printing Plant.

After two years of negotiation with printers and press builders, we have been able to arrange for a press exactly suited to the needs of printing *Vick's Family Magazine* rapidly and economically. By its use thousands of dollars will be saved each year. We shall also take advantage of the latest and most improved machinery for stitching, mailing, etc. By close figuring we find that these improvements will enable us to print and mail a larger and better publication for much less than the present cost and we have decided to make the unprecedented offer to send

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The new press will be installed in time to print our January, 1904, issue in the enlarged form, and beginning with that issue the size of our pages will be enlarged to 11 x 14 inches and the magazine will consist of 32 such pages, thus giving our readers 3658 square inches of printed matter each month or 43,896 square inches each year. This enlargement, together with the beautiful Art Covers and greater number of handsome illustrations on the inside pages, will make Vick's the greatest publication for the price in America.

#### THE FISHER CHARCOAL ART PRINTS

We have made an exclusive arrangement with Mr. Fisher, the celebrated charcoal landscape artist, to make a series of twelve superb landscapes for reproduction on the front cover of Vick's the coming year. These illustrations are large, covering the entire front cover page, and for real beauty and artistic merit, will surpass any pictures to be published by any American periodical in 1904. Charcoal landscapes are not common as it is only the artist of unusual ability who can produce a real work of art in black and white. Mr. Fisher has confined his work mostly to landscapes for exhibition and sale at the high class art stores of New York and other large cities where his pieces sell readily at enormous prices. It is by our acquaintance with a friend of his that we are able to secure this series of landscapes. The twelve covers of Vick's for 1904 will be worth many times what we ask

for a year's subscription. Of course the pictures on the covers will not be suitable for framing as the paper is too light weight and there must be some printing on the page, so we have arranged to have these landscapes reproduced on fine sheets of American Creme Mat Board, specially prepared and tinted so as to bring out the landscapes to the best possible advantage. Everyone who subscribes for Vick's, either singly or in a club, and sends 6 cents additional to pay for postage and packing will receive a Fisher Charcoal Art Print Free. These Prints are handsome for framing and suitable for any room in the house. Size 15 x 18 inches. The first three of the series will be ready for mailing in November but those subscribing now will be placed on our list and the prints mailed as soon as received from the engravers.

VICK PUBLISHING Co., 62 State Street, Rochester, N.Y.



VOL. XXVII

SEPTEMBER, 1903

No. 7

#### A Frieze of White Lilies.

By Mrs. G. T. Drennan.

(Awarded the Second Prize in our late Contest.)

The typical genus *lilium* embraces the considerable number of ninety, so far as known. They are scattered over the world in all temperate parts. Those native to the United States are as fine as any in the world.

There are lilies and lilies. Lilium candidum, the pure white Madonna lily, is a fair representative of the class. It is a perfect type of fragile loveliness, but in reality, one of the hardiest of all flowers. The waxen texture of the foliage and the flower, seem indicative of

very frail constitution, to the uninitiated. Well acquainted with the Madonna, which I select as the champion of all lilies, I know full well its capacity to withstand the severest cold of long winters, as well as the prolonged heat of summers in southern lands.

The Madonna, like all of its class, is obstinate. There are several binding rules that must be adhered to in cultivating lilies. There is no compromise with them. "The Old Guard dies but never surrenders." Lilies will die, under ill-advised modes of culture, but they never sacrifice their principles. They never condescend. It is do well or die, with them.

The white Madonna lily, in large numbers, is the fine raiment of the flower garden. Numbers never make it common, but on the other hand, accentuate its grace and elegance.

The several rules for the culture of the lily are soon enumerated. First, in all parts of the world botanists have found lily bulbs deep in the ground. Obviously, this is the reason they are safely disseminated in so many widely different latitudes. The bulbs are deep in the ground where the temperature is below the fluctuations of heat and cold above the surface. In constructing a frieze of lilies, that is to be permanent for years and years, remember to plant the bulbs a foot deep.

The next rule is to have mellow soil. Lily bulbs of the finest size and quality will freckle, spot and decay in gross soil, enriched with heating compost.

Whatever may be the elements, let them be thoroughly decomposed and mellowed into a whole that is friable, but mild and non-heating, and always have silver sand liberally intermixed. Then run the frieze of lilies in a sunny place. The chemical and physiological effects of sunshine can not be computed. Also run the frieze where it can remain for years to come, for lily bulbs do much better to remain in one place, provided the environments are congenial. Stagnant moisture is fatal to lilies, therefore locate them where the ground is sweet and well drained. These are all the rules. They are few and clean-cut, but not one can be disregarded, for the lily is not the pliant, complacent flower its fair and lovely form would indicate.

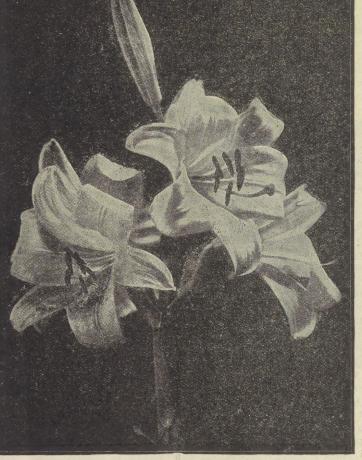
One other consideration, is to bed lily bulbs early in the fall. They rest from June till August and then incipient growth is manifest. September is the prime month to bed them, but October is not too late. The lily is a flower of intense vitality, as manifested by the active growth which proceeds so rapidly, that in a few weeks the waxen green crown of leaves appears. These green leaves appear very tender, but are so hardy that they are among the chief ornaments of the outdoor winter garden.

A frieze of white lilies of ideal beauty is run along the front of a closely clipped green hedge of ligustrum, the California privet, (by the way, the finest hedge plant in existence). The hedge is at its beautiful best when the tall white lilies bloom. The green background to the lilies is ideal. From end

ground to the lilies is ideal. From end to end of this frieze the white lilies are evenly disposed in clumps of ten or a dozen to each, and where the length admits of hundreds of lilies, the effect is dazzling. The grandeur of white lilies blooming by hundreds, so far exceeds the effect of sparse numbers, that the difference to be realized must be seen.

Lilies bloom when the garden is gay with sweet peas and pansies; rich with the royal roses, and sweet with honey-suckles and pinks. There are flowers that are never so beautiful as when contrasted with lilies. Pæonies bloom when lilies do, and the large showy crimson, blush and white blooms are admirable in the frieze. Side by side with the lilies and pæonies, come the Japanese Iris Kæmpferi. There are azure, indigo and peacock blue sorts; then rosy-bronze; mauve; pale purple with dark red spots, and buff, every one as beautiful as an orchid. Pæonies and Iris, with white lilies have a very pronounced and attractive appearance.

All along the frieze from end to end, carnations give the finishing touch. The whitish-green, grass-like foliage of carnations is unique in a flower scheme. Even before the sweet and lovely carnation pinks are open, the foliage is charming. Another interesting little flower with whitish-green foliage, is the Korn Blumen of Germany, our "Ragged Robin." It is quite effective mingled with other flowers, as a component of the frieze.



MADONNA LILIES.

For royal border to the white lily frieze, adopt the rich, velvety pansies. They are in the height of their splendid blooming when the lilies are at their loveliest, and the two form an ideal combination.

White lilies are as enduring as the hills. When done blooming, and the tops removed the bulbs are so far below the surface, that their places in the frieze may be beautifully filled with geraniums or any summer bedding plants. The most brilliant geraniums and mammoth verbenas my garden ever had to show were grown above the lily bulbs. Planted in numbers, and cultivated according to their own set rules, a frieze of any length may beautify the garden with lilies, which as the old ranchman said of the snowflakes on the Texas prairie, will be "as big and soft and white as a woman's hand."



#### Heuchera Sanguinea.

This is a comparatively new hardy perennial, at least so new that it is not yet found in very many gardens. It is, however, one of the best plants of recent introduction, and sooner or later is sure to become a favorite.

The leaves are light green, slightly hairy, somewhat heart-shaped, and grow in tufts or clumps close to the ground. They are evergreen, and make the plant attractive even when out of bloom.

• The flowers are borne in graceful, open panicles on slender stems from twelve to eighteen inches in height. They vary from the softest, prettiest rose color imaginable to a bright crimson. Variety robusta, or grandflora, is rather an improvement on the type, as the flowers are larger and the color a little brighter. There are also varieties with white flowers, but they are not at all showy. Coral Bells and Crimson Bells are common names for the plant. It is also known as Alum Root.

The Heuchera begins to bloom in June and continues until fall, producing its graceful spikes in the greatest profusion. It is adapted to growing in borders, being at once showy and graceful as well as a continuous bloomer, and a bed of the plants when in full perfection of bloom is a beautiful sight. It also does well on rockeries or rock gardens.

As cut flowers the Heucheras are very handsome, the long, loose panicles having a very graceful, any effect and the soft coloring making them particularly pretty for table decoration.

Any ordinary garden soil seems to suit the Heucheras, unless it be a cold, stiff clay, and they flourish best in the open sunlight, though they do not seem to object very much to a partial shade. They like moisture, but the drainage should be good. The plants are inclined to become weak

if they remain too long in one place. They should be divided every two years, either in the spring or fall.

Florence Beckwith.

#### The Magic Seven in Floriculture.

BY EVA R. GILLIARD.

(A prize article in our recent contest.)

Pots, drainage, soil, fertilizer, space, light, and cleanliness constitute the magic seven in floriculture, and each part of the combination must be given attention by the one who works for success.

#### POTS.

Plants may be grown in anything that will hold soil, but after many experiments, I prefer the common, porous clay pots. Plants grown in them need watering oftener than those grown in tin or glazed earthenware, but they are less liable to be over-watered, and moreover warmth and air can penetrate to the roots.

If the appearance of these pots is objectionable, do not paint them and make them as cold and impervious to air as the glazed ones, but stain them with turpentine colored by mixing with it some dry paint-powder of the desired color. This stains the ware but does not fill the pores; the turpentine soon evaporates and there is no crackling, or scalding, as with painted pots.

For a blooming plant the pot should be of a size that will allow the roots to fill it, as the root-bound plant blooms more freely, while the one grown for foliage needs more soil, and must have a larger pot.

#### DRAINAGE.

Drainage is the first thing to go into the pots, and it should never be stones, broken bricks, broken dishes, nor any cold substance. The ideal drainage is either burnt bones, charcoal, or both.

To those who burn wood it is a simple matter

to save the pieces of charcoal when removing ashes from the stoves, or to take a mass of live coals and throw water over them. Every bone from meat used should be burned until it will break easily when struck with the poker. Charcoal absorbs moisture and impurities, thus preventing the cold, sour condition of soil so fatal to healthy plant growth, and the burnt bones act as both drainage and fertilizer.

#### SOIL.

Soil is the third requirement and should be fairly rich, and friable enough to drop apart when squeezed up in the hand. Turn up the sods along an old fence-row and from the under side scraps the mass of fibrous roots, which are light and spongy, and furnish the humus (vegetable matter) needed by growing plants. Mix this with an equal quantity of good garden-soil and then add enough sand to bring the mixture to the condition described -dropping apart after being squeezed into a lump. Pot plants do not need as rich soil

as some people think, and, in fact, a too rich soil induces a disease not unlike dyspepsia, and defeats its own ends. Such a soil as described is rich enough for any plant when first potted and no fertilizer should be given until the plant shows need of it by poor color, and decreased size of foliage. Stir the soil frequently, never allowing a crust, or mold, to form over the surface.

#### FERTILIZING.

As has been stated, plants should not be fed until they show signs of needing food, and resting plants should never be fed. When applying liquid fertilizer, moisten the soil before applying it, as a moist soil will absorb and hold the fertilizer better than a dry one.

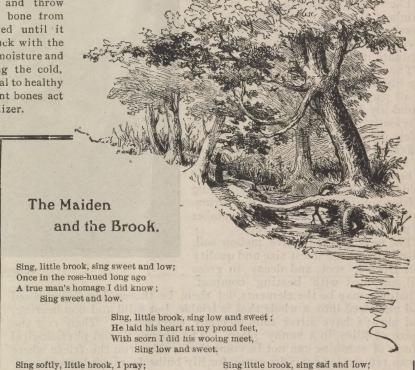
Nitrate of soda is a fine stimulant and a grand medicine for sick plants. Dissolve a teaspoonful of the nitrate of soda in a quart of warm water, and water the plants with the preparation about twice a week until a healthy growth is resumed, remembering that a too free use of it will overstimulate the plant.

Pulverized glue worked into the soil around fibrous rooted plants is one of the best plant foods known. Peruvian guano, or fish guano, may be dissolved in water and used in small quantities, or the dry material may be worked into the soil, a very little at a time and not oftener than once in two weeks. Give different fertilizers, at different times, to supply the varying needs of the plants, and always work the surface of the soil before applying it.

#### SPACE.

One rule in deciding what, and how many, plants shall be grown should be the amount of available space, bearing in mind at all times that six fine, perfectly developed specimens are vastly more ornamental than twice the number crowded into the same amount of space, where every one is distorted in shape, and dwarfed in size from lack of room.

(Continued on page twenty-four.)



With aching heart he rode away,
I've seen him not since that sad day,
Sing soft I pray.

O'er his lone grave the grasses blow,
My laggard love he ne'er may know,
Sing sad and low.

Written for Vick's Family Magazine by Mabel Cornelia Matson.

#### Notes on Hardy Flowers.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

To those who have the permanent use of a garden, the culture of hardy, or more properly, herbaceous plants, should be very interesting. Perennials are plants that die each fall but come up again every spring. When once planted they require but little attention for several years.

I am glad to see that herbaceous plants are yearly becoming more fashionable. This is as it should be, for they are suitable for all gardens. For small gardens I strongly recommend the



JAPAN ANEMONE.

dwarfer kinds, as thus a greater number can be grown. The majority of the hardy plants thrive well in ordinary garden soil. In preparing the soil for herbaceous plants, it is well to dig deeply, and if very poor some good manure should be added, otherwise a quantity of half rotted leaves should be mixed with it. It is usually best to plant in lines, the tallest at

the back and the dwarfest at the front. For the very tall plants two to three feet should be allowed between the plants; for medium growers about eighteen inches. Nothing is gained by too close planting. If plenty of room is allowed there will be no necessity for replanting for several years.

I append a list of easily grown yet beautiful plants. Most of them furnish excellent blooms for house decoration, and are selected so as to keep up a supply of flowers for a long season.

Anemones-These are the beautiful wind flowers; the Japanese varieties are two feet high, and flower in the fall. Aquilegias are the Kingscuffs of our grandmothers, and are now greatly improved. Asters or Michaelmas daisies are fall flowering plants; their starlike blossoms are most effective for room decoration; height from one to five feet, according to the variety. Campanulas include the well known Canterbury Bells, and are



most gorgeous flowers, height two to five feet. Delphiniums, or Larkspurs, are in all shades, from pale lavender to the deepest of blue. In rich soil Delphiniums grow to the height of six to eight feet, but in ordinary soil average about four and one-half feet. Doronicums are very beautiful yellow flowers one to two feet high. Digitalis, four feet. These are varie-

ties of foxglove, and have very rich colors. Gaillardias, two and one-half feet, are all shades of yellow, orange and red. Myosotis (forget-me-not) grows six inches high, very beautiful and pleasing. Phlox, one of our best hardy flowers, two to four feet high, for late summer display, would be hard to beat. French Pyrethrum, two and onehalf feet, one of the best flowers for cutting as they keep fresh for a long time. Rudbeckia, two feet, yellow with purple centre. Spireas, one to three feet. The Japanese varieties are popular pot plants, and their foliage excellent for mixing

with cut flowers. Tritoma, or the Red Hot Poker, is a very curious fall flower. Hepaticas flower in spring and are lovely as edging or rockery plants. Cowslips and primroses, both single and double, have been greatly improved, and are now to be had in endless shades of color.

The Christmas Rose (Helleborus niger) is almost indispensable, flowering as it Fox Glove. does in December and January. This

plant should be as seldom disturbed as possible, as it bears transplanting badly. This by no means exhausts the list of beautiful hardy plants. I have, however, endeavored to select only those that can be easily raised and are comparatively easy of culture. A. V. Meersch.



#### New Species of Thorns.

Under the title of Crataegus in Rochester, New York, the Rochester Academy of Science has published a brochure, prepared by Dr. C. S. Sargent, Director of the Arnold Arboretum and author of "Silva of North America," describing new species of thorns found in this vicinity. Since 1899, Dr. Sargent, assisted by local botanists, has been making a systematic study of the thorns in Rochester and vicinity. The results of these studies are found in this preliminary list, which describes forty-one new species. Twenty other species, probably new, are still under observation.

In his introduction, Dr. Sargent says: "This segregation of forms seems to confirm the fact which I have long suspected, that the country surrounding Lake Ontario and the eastern end of

Lake Erie, and the valley of the St. Lawrence river as far east as Montreal Island, is richer in forms of Crataegus, and in the multiplication of individuals than any other part of the world, with the exception, perhaps, of the Red River valley in Arkansas."

One of the most beautiful of these newly described thorns is named for the city of Rochester, Crataegus Duro brivensis, the specific name being the genitive of the ancient Roman name of Rochester, England. Some of our local botanists and a noted horticulturist and treelover are also remembered

and honored in the naming of other species.

The thorns are among the most beautiful of our native trees and shrubs, and especially desirable for ornamental purposes. They are usually very symmetrical in shape, in spring they are covered with masses of bloom, and in autumn they are loaded with brilliantly colored fruit, which, in some species, remains on the tree all winter. In fact, at all seasons of the year the thorns are attractive, and the fortunate owners of extensive lawns and grounds should not fail to give some of them a place.

The publication of this list should stimulate the study of thorns in all parts of the country, as there are undoubtedly still more species as yet undiscovered and undescribed. Florence Beckwith.

Note-We take pride in announcing that one of the new thorns (Crataegus Beckwithae) was named in honor of one of our editors, Miss Beckwith, who is one of the authors of "Plants of Monroe County, New York," and President of the Botanical Section of the Rochester Academy of Science.

#### Care of Bedding Geraniums.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

Geraniums will withstand many of the early frosts, when bedded out. Only do they succumb to the blighting freeze. Newspapers pinned around the plants will protect them on cold nights, thus sparing them for many more days of beauty outside, before being removed to their winter quarters. When the weather makes this a necessity, pull up the plants, shake off the dirt and hang roots upward in a dry frost-proof cellar.

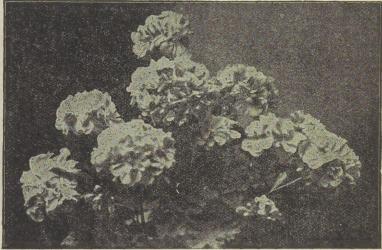
A better way, and one I have to resort to, is to cut the tops from plants, place all the roots together in a large leaky granite iron kettle, and set under the plant table in the kitchen. In a short time new leaves will push forth; these grow very slowly when the short days of winter come on. Occasionally they are watered and the dust washed from the foliage. In March, the kettle takes the place on the plant table held by the winter bulbs that have bloomed and been put away in the cellar. With sunlight, warmth and care the geraniums develop into fine plants for bedding out in May. With me they begin blooming early, keep it up, never tiring, and are such a mass of color, even to the last, that one dislikes to part with Eliza Bradish.

### A Fine Begonia.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

A short time ago I wrote that Impatiens Sultaniwas such an excellent window plant. It is everything claimed for it, but it does not claim to possess extra fine foliage, nor to furnish anything but cheerful blossoms.

Where one wishes a stately plant with beautiful



FINE BEDDING GERANIUM.

foliage, and one that will furnish handsome blooms all the time, procure a President Carnot Begonia. There may be plants of the Begonia family that are more satisfactory, but among some nineteen varieties it is our favorite, and makes the finest appearance, though we have several other nice ones. Ours was a tiny plant last May with just two small shoots; now the tallest branch is thirty inches from top of pail and there are four more almost as tall, besides the numerous slips taken, and five large panicles of red bloom hang on the branches. Since June it has not been without two or more panicles as large as one's hand. Without the blossoms it is a beautiful plant, the rich foliage having a sheen like greenish-red, changeable silk. Without doubt it is a grand Begonia, being as floriferous for us as the old standby, Vernon Begonia. If you like Begonias, and what flower-lover does not, do not let another year pass without procuring a President Carnot.

Emma Clearwaters.



### Talks About Flowers

By BENJAMIN B. KEECH



#### Roman Hyacinths and Others.

It is a possible thing to have hyacinths, tulips and narcissi in bloom in the living rooms on Christmas; but they must be planted a few months beforehand and given a reasonable time to develop roots. Special kinds must also be ordered. It is a good idea to procure a number of hyacinths, etc., in September and plant them as soon as received. This will give the bulbs about three months in which to get ready to flower, and, since the varieties that I am going to mention are earlier than other kinds, they can hardly fail to be anything but satisfactory.

The Roman hyacinth is, in many respects, head and shoulders above other members of the same family. Its principal mission seems to be to please people. It will bloom in December, and comes in white, cream, pink and blue. Each bulb sends up from one to six spikes, which cannot be said regarding all hyacinths. The bulbs and individual flowers are smaller than the Pompon and Dutch varieties, but the blossoms have a

dainty grace and airiness which other kinds do not possess. Three bulbs may sometimes be planted in a four-inch pot. It is permissible to crowd them a little, especially in rich soil. A better effect will usually be realized if each color is grown in a dish by itself. This rule may often be broken to advantage, but where mixed bulbs are concerned one specimen should be put in a three inch receptacle.

A few dozens each of the Dutch and Pompon varieties should also be had. The single kinds, either mixed or named, are best to start with. They can be ordered and planted with the Romans, or later, but are not usually ready to flower during the Holidays. Many of the big Dutch kinds, potted in October, will wait until March before showing signs of growth; and the rule is not to remove them to the window until the roots, leaves and buds are well developed. One can often facilitate matters by bringing the bulbs from the cellar,

putting them in a moderately warm, light cupboard in the kitchen, and leaving them there for from two to four weeks.

Duc Van Thol tulips are so bright and full of cheer that every one ought to cultivate them. The rich scarlet variety is particulary pleasing, and is just the thing to have in the window when the ground is covered with snow. If the bulbs are given reasonable time to form roots, and sufficient room to grow them, these tulips will do very well at the hands of an amateur. It is a pleasure to have them in bloom for Christmas. Three bulbs in a four-inch dish, or one in a three-inch pot, will be about right. Be sure to have a number of paper white narcissi. These go finely with the bright colors of the tulip, and may be planted as directed for that bulb. They are even earlier than the Roman hyacinth, and can generly be relied on to blossom long and well.

Plant the hyacinth, narcissus, crocus and others

so that the tips of the bulbs come about level with the rims of the dishes. The soil should be mellow, porous and reasonably rich. If the cellar is not dry and airy, the receptacles should be thoroughly drained. A layer of charcoal or pebbles in the bottom of each dish, covered with moss or leaves, will allow the surplus water to escape from the soil, and the bulbs will be in less danger of decay.

Some people place a quantity of sand or powdered charcoal around each specimen as it is planted. This is a good idea, and should always be carried out where more bulbs than one are to be planted in a dish. The sand will enable the roots to start sooner than otherwise, even if it doesn't prevent decay.

It is not always necessary to drain the receptacles smaller than a four-inch jar; but experience is the only teacher that can tell the truth in this matter. It is a good idea to soak the flower pots before planting the bulbs, and if the soil is slightly moistened, results will be all the better. Tulips, etc., can be grown in a much poorer compost than

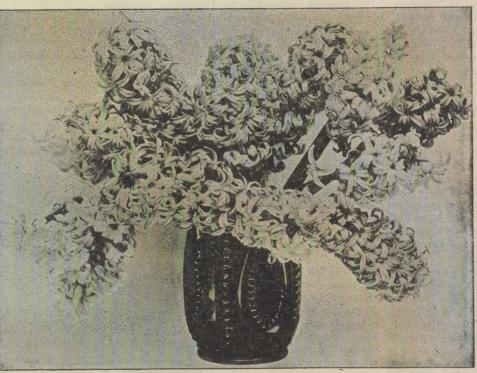
they are ready to come to the light, when in reality they are not.

If the potted treasures are placed in cupboards and closets in the living rooms, they (the cupboards) should also be dark, and not too near a fire. Examine the different specimens throughout the winter. If the soil is dry, moisten it. The roots cannot start into satisfactory growth until they have had enough moisture to encourage them. But do not keep the soil sopping wet-that is, do not water it every day. A very good rule to follow is this: Keep every bulb in the dark until the leaves have grown an inch high. If the buds are in plain view, all the better. In bringing them to the light, do not put the different specimens immediately in the window. This may be done, however, if the flower stalk has grown entirely out of the neck of the bulb. Placed in the window at this stage, they can hardly fail to flower successfully. If hyacinths are brought from the cellar when only the tips are above groundas may very frequently be done, especially if

wanted to flower for Christmas -they should be put first in a moderately warm, light cupboard and left there until well developed. No hyacinth should be given direct light unless the buds have grown out of the necks of the bulbs; and all specimens should have at least six weeks to grow roots in the dark. A longer time is always better. Many bulbs will not be sufficiently developed to flower within four or five months after planting; and the ones that wait the longest are generally the

Keep all bulbous plants cool and moist, rather than hot and dry. In this way the flowers will last much longer than otherwise. If hyacinths choke in the necks of bulbs in trying to bloom before they ought, resort to the threadbare remedy of forming a funnel out of a piece of writing paper, cutting it off to proper length and slipping it down over the plant. Then give a cooler air. This may all be

avoided, however, by allowing slow, gradual development in the dark, and by keeping them out of an excessively warm, light window. One with a northern exposure is generally best, if not too near a stove. It is usually a poor plan to bother with the same bulbs in the living rooms another winter. The small "offsets" are as good as worthless. Hyacinths, and so forth, bloom only once a year-in the winter, in the house, or in the spring, out-of-doors. Let them die down in their pots, and save through the summer until fall, then plant in the out-door garden. Some of the largest and soundest may do fairly well in the window a second time, but they will have to be extra strong in the first place and well fertilized when in bloom. Narcissi, and particularly Chinese sacred lilies, will prove a failure the second winter. Rely on sound, newly procured



HYACINTHS.

would be imagined. If they are fertilized when coming into bloom, a soil utterly devoid of manure and leaf mould may be provided. Dirt that will grow good vegetables, will also grow satisfactory hyacinths, and so forth.

#### Difficulties That Confront One.

After the bulbs are potted, watered and labeled —by writing their names on the outside of the dishes—set them away in a dark, cool, even-temperatured place to form roots, Here the difficulties of bulb growing begin. (Of course, they are difficulties only to the uninitiated.) If the cellar is chosen—as in most cases it should be—keep some traps ready for inquisitive rats and mice. Or, a few swing shelves, or a big, wooden box could be fastened to the sides or ceiling in such a way as to outwit the rodents. The cellar should be dark. If it isn't, the bulbs may immediately send forth leaves and convince one that

(Continued on page twenty-three.)

## Chrough Fields and Woodlands

BY N. HUDSON MOORE



#### September.

"Studious of Ease and fond of humble things, Below the smiles, below the frowns of Kings; Thanks to my stars, I prize the sweets of life, No sleepless nights I count, no days or strife, I wake, I rest, I drink, I sometimes love, I read, I write, I settle or I rove; Content to live, content to die unknown, Lord of myself, accountable to none."

"You will be careful, if you are wise; How you touch men's religion, or credit, or eyes."

"After fish, Milk do not wish."

"They who have nothing to trouble them, will be troubled at nothing"

From "Poor Richard's Almanac" for September, 1742.

This is the month of royal colors, of purple and

This is the month of royal colors, of purple and gold in vineyard, in harvest field, by the roadside, in the marsh and in the garden as well. Have

you ever named the yellow flowers you can gather in September? Begin first with that old fashioned garden favorite tansy, though I think the quaint name of "bitterbuttons' suits it much better. How many unfortunate children have been dosed with tansy tea, "which be pleasant in taste and goode for the stomache," as the old Herbal says. Then come all the golden-rods, the sun-flowers, from the tall ones with big brown hearts filled with seeds, beloved by birds both wild and of the barnyard, to the wild ones which adorn the fence rows. Then there is the golden coreopsis, so free a bloomer that all the other garden flowers make but a poor show beside it, even the tall "Golden Glow," yielding the palm to its more lowly competitor.

Is there a child who has not gathered hands full of the saucy Black-eyed Susan? This is a native of our own land, a traveler too from western harvest fields. Not content with coming as far as the Atlantic

ASTERS.

coast in bales
of hay, it has
crossed the
ocean and
been duly
seized upon by
European gardeners for its
decorative
beauty, a fate

which several other of our native so-called weeds have met with in the Old World. All over the country this flower has local names, none of them however so pretty as that of Black-eyed Susan; though" Golden Jerusalem'' is pretty, and so is Yellow Daisy, but neither Nigger - head, nor Cone-flower is particularly taking. Other members of the thistle family with

golden flowers are the elecampane, the golden aster, the Indian cup, and false sunflower.

I always look forward to a second period of bloom from the sweet honeysuckle, which is all tones from cream white to deep yellow, and one of those plants

from which you may pick day after day, and it will reward you by increased bloom. Like so many of our best loved plants, this is a comer from the Orient, and is called indiscriminately Chinese or Japanese Honeysuckle. There are so many admirable things about this plant that one cannot pass it over with a few words. First of all, it has fragrance, the cardinal point of excellence in a flower; next it has two seasons of bloom; it is quite free from disagreeable insects, only attracting those that charm. Its most constant visitor is that tiny bit of feathers called the humming-bird, for whose particular benefit the nectar is hidden away in the long slender tube of its corolla.

It is about the honeysuckle that I learn most of the ways and doings of this "living gem." It is

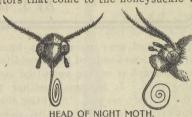


GOLDEN ROD.

here the mother brings her two little ones, dull little creatures like herself, and here I found the family resting after the labor of getting their breakfast. One's most familiar impression of the humming-bird is a whirr of wings hanging apparently from a flower, then a flash of ruby red which hurries by so quickly that you can scarcely tell its direction. Indeed this is true of the male, for familiar residents as they are of the garden I have never seen one perching. But with the female and young the case is different. They se-

lect some slender branch that they can grasp easily and sit there often half an hour at a time, and return to it day after day. They will sit almost motionless, and are quite fearless, letting you pass and repass beneath the branch, to all appearances not aware of your presence.

Beside the humming-birds there are other visitors that come to the honeysuckle vine, which are



equally welcome, and they come at that mysterious hour of the day, when the setting sun invests all

nature with an added glory. These creatures have gained for themselves, by their curious darting movements, the name of hawk moths, though they are more commonly known as Sphinx moths from the attitude assumed by the great caterpillars from which they come. These moths have a long tongue, curled round and round when not in use, and this they thrust into the long tube of the honeysuckle till it reaches the drop of nectar stored at the bottom. But if these moths rifle the flowers of their sweets, they do in return a service to the plant by carrying away on the hairs and scales which cover their heads, grains of pollen which will be dropped on some flower vis-

ited later, and carry on the great work of fertilization. Some of these Sphinxes have been caught with pollen masses (pollinia) on their heads and even attached to their eyes, as shown in the illustration. The side view shows the pollinia standing almost directly forward, that being their position when first attached; after a very short time the stems bend, and the masses hang down as seen in the front view. In this pendulous position the pollinia can readily come in contact with the stigma of the next flower the insect visits.

The flowers so far mentioned are but just the beginning of the golden beauties of September, another of whose humble but pretty favorites is the well known butter-and-eggs. This is an immigrant from Europe, and a welcome one, since it makes bright many a waste spot that would otherwise be bare and desolate.

Of the purple flowers much too may be said, beginning again in the garden, as we did with the yellow list, and with an old fashioned favorite. Smell the lavender! Is there another plant that appeals more forcibly to the imagination? If so I do not know it. Even that vendor of weed seeds sprinkled with a few drops of oil of lavender is welcome in the street, for he sends abroad the delicious old-time odor every time he stirs up the seeds.

Running through all shades of lilac, even from white to royal purple, we find the asters. So charming are these flowers that under the name of Boltonias they have crept into our gardens, and in great masses wave to and fro in the autumn wind perfect bunches of beauty. Go to the marsh and see the color of the iron weed, a perfect royal purple. Nor can the humble thistle be despised, since it, too, bears the color of royalty, and in truly royal manner scatters on the autumn breezes largess in the form of seeds, with royal sails of glistening silk.





### Che Goose that Laid the Golden Egg.

(A Prize Winning Story in Our Recent Contest.)

By S. Worthington.



This was not the good gray goose with broad pinions, downy breast, and webbed feet, waddling about the noisy barnyard or sailing swan-like over the clear, shining pool. It belonged neither to the sea nor the prairie; no pen, "mightier than the sword," was ever made from its quills; never one of its feathers had winged the archer's arrow, nor from its fluffy store had been gathered the filling for a restful pillow. It was not of the kind to save a city by its cackling, nor might it furnish forth a feast for the happy Christmas time. Yet, seldom did it fail, except on Sunday or a legal holiday, to bring to the hoard of its posessor some accession; not, indeed, a nugget, but a small contribution, the proverbial "little" that "makes a mickle."

No description is given in natural history, ancient or modern, of this particular species of Anser, for the reason that it was made of iron, long and narrow in shape with a handle resembling the neck of the bird for which it was named. Its owner was the village tailoress, Miss Lucretia Lathrop (Creshy Lotrop, in common parlance),

and its utility was for pressing open the seams and smoothing the padded collars and shapely lapels of her fulled-cloth work.

It was before the day of the helpful sewing machine or the convenient "hand-me-downs" of the ready made clothing shop. Every stitch required conscientious placing of the needle by careful fingers, and so well was Miss Lucretia's work accomplished that the best townspeople of Hillsdale were content to wear the garments fashioned by her, with no question as to style, fit, or general effect.

For the small remuneration of four York shillings a day, she sewed from seven in the morning till nine in the evening, when, placing her thread, twist, beeswax, open-topped thimble and sharp shears in her utility work-bag, and having seen that her goose and press-board were put away conveniently for next day's use, she set forth on her homeward way with a peaceful consciousness of faithful well-doing.

The most liberal flatterer could not say that Miss Lathrop was pretty. Her pale, ashen colored hair, plastered plainly down on each side of a face similar in hue, her features commonplace, her eyes a faded blue, her form lean and ungraceful, afforded no inspiration to artist or poet. Nor was her manner prepossessing. She was too decided, brusque, too self-opinionated to be winning, and (let it be whispered) she indulged in the use of a sternutation powder which she called "Maccaboy," of which her stained upper lip and nasal speech gave evidence. To this rose-scented mixture she added a vanilla bean, about which the children used to be very curious, but they seldom saw the inside of the sacred snuffbox, which had belonged to Deacon Lathrop, and which with him had been an heirloom.

Yet, the village tailoress was ever a welcome comer to the houses of the townspeople, and held their sincere respect. Even the boys who had the

errand of conveying to and fro her goose and press-board, cherished no ill will, for their jackets were well made and their trousers never skimped in the pockets.

Miss Lucretia had a heart of gold, a vigorous will, a steadfast courage, and a perseverance in what she deemed her duty, undaunted by rebuff, and accepting no defeat. The pious purpose of her life was well known. Since she was eighteen she had devoted herself to an endeavor which she had set for her life-work.

When her Grandfather Lathrop went to the unseen country, he bequeathed to her the ancient Lathrop home, with all its belongings, but, so far as she knew, with no visible income. So she betook herself to the learning of a trade, resolved that never should debt nor incumbrance fall upon that sacred heritage; and she succeeded well. The tax-gatherer never had to wait for the Lathrop dues; every duty of a citizen and a land owner was promptly paid—the property kept safe and intact.

Her only sister, Lucy Lathrop, had married



THE OLD HOMESTEAD.

early and with her husband, Andrew Huntington, had gone West for the betterment of their fortunes. Both were dead, but a son, Lathrop Huntington, lived to give a purpose to her life. That this descendant of the Lathrops and Huntingtons should become the master of the ancestral home, its fields and orchards, was a sufficient inspiration for her activity.

Great was her sorrow and disappointment when, at thirty-three, he was hurried out of life. But he had left a widow and a daughter, and to this last she transferred the affection which she had given to her lost kindred.

The old house had a pleasant site, overlooking an extensive prospect of hill and valley, and giving a view of the village spires and dwellings; itself, with its two stories and "stoop" in front and piazzas across each wing was conspicuous from a long distance. Built in the generous proportions of the colonial time, its wide halls gave

access to spacious apartments of which, except those of Miss Lathrop's living rooms, the doors were seldom opened. Old trees, that had outlived generations of the family, gave to the place a venerable dignity. Even of the row of tall Lombardy poplars, now so nearly extinct in this country, a few survived. The oaks, elms, and maples seemed primeval. The townspeople respected the place for its age, and regarded it as an object of interest.

The back porch overlooked the large garden, where in one corner Miss Lucretia raised her vegetables and tended her cherished flowers, but the greater part had been left to the bounteous gardener, Nature, who had made of it a picturesque wilderness overrun by a redundant growth of self-sown saplings, wild vines and bushes.

Of the old furniture, carefully preserved, were heirlooms brought over the sea by the earlier comers to New England. That Miss Lathrop should love and venerate a place so hallowed by time and the long residence of kindred, will be easy understood by those, who, from childhood to age have enjoyed the shelter of a home so dear.

And now, Miss Lucretia was past sixty and feeling some diminution of strength and courage. A day's sewing wearied her as it had not used to do. Her solitary rooms, when she came home, seemed more lonesome. She felt a need of human association; the longing for the presence of kindred

grew stronger within her, and a keen desire to see the destined successor to the old home awakened in her mind.

So one day, she "took in hand" a pen seldom used and indited a letter asking the widow Huntington and her daughter to come to Hillsdale. A reply accepting her hospitable invitation was soon followed by the arrival of the wished-for guests,

The widow Huntington was simply a kind and pleasant person, but the daughter—whence had she inherited such loveliness? Not from her mother, certainly; not even from sister Lucy who had been merely a good, plain sort of woman. It must have been the Huntingtons from whom she had derived such an endowment of personal good looks, such sweetness of nature, such brightness of manner.

Into Miss Lucretia's empty life came beauty, cheer, tenderness, loving ministry. Under the practical considerations which had shaped her destiny, had been hidden some-

thing of which her consciousness had been but dimly aware; heart-hunger, thirst for love; and this new experince was like an invigorating cordial to her weary spirit.

And when the terror assailed her of the going away of these friends, of being left again to her dreary solitude, she felt that she could not bear it. They had in the West a farm and interests worth looking after. If only they could sell the land there would be no hindrance to their staying with her.

Imagine her joy when, one day, there came to the widow and her daughter a liberal offer. The Bloomsbury Agricultural Implement Company, whose large works adjoined the Huntington farm, desired to buy more acres upon which to build cottages for their employees. It was of great importance to the company to acquire this particular piece of property, and their offer had been made with the intention of securing it at any cost.

was one which they were glad to accept, and Miss Lucretia's mind was relieved from apprehension. But it may be said of young Lucy Huntington that the profit to be gained by the transaction was not a leading influence in her decision.

She had learned truly to love this lonely aunt of hers, to appreciate the generous, self-denying traits of character; the singular renunciation of the joys of youth, the ease of middle life; the consecration to a noble purpose; and it became to this amiable young girl the most earnest desire and intention to stay and cheer the declining years of one who had given her strength for others; to put into her failing life a sweetness of which her experience had been barren. And now, this happy chance of selling the farm would make it possible for her to relieve this good aunt from the necessity of work and give her the rest due to her years of privation and

For making the necessary legal documents for a transfer of the land to the new purchasers, the advice and assistance of a lawyer was required. A young man had recently opened an office in Hillsdale for the practice of his profession. His name, Gurdon Lathrop, seemed to the women a letter of credence which bespoke their trust, and accordingly they sought his services.

Time and considerable consultation seemed to be necessary, and before the business was concluded the visits of the young lawyer had become frequent, nor did they cease when no longer needed. The habit of repairing to the shade of the old trees, or the inviting shelter of the broad colonande at the close of a summer day when the office seemed hot and uncomfortable, became a settled one. The winter did not change the aspect of the case. The great wood fire in the old sitting room presented an attractive contrast to the dull office stove. Bright companionship, music, pleasant talk, homelike kindness, were a charm too potent to be resisted.

But why spend words in appoaching an inevitable conclusion? There was not a gossip in Hillsdale who could not see with half an eye the outcome of all this philandering (as they were pleased to call it). "Miss Lathrop," they said, "was trying to make a match between her pretty niece and of little value, but she thought it well that rising young lawyer." As if what was to happen had not long ago for the future. In the same old chest been recorded in the Book of Fate, without reference to Miss Lucretia.

spinster's early life. winning charms had been a sufficient as she pleased. And to what better safeguard against the attentions of purpose could she devote them than young men, and she had been too busy to the great event in prospect? to care for them. Now into her world had come a new subject for observa- flood of old-time coins appeared in tion. The progress of a genuine love Hillsdale; silver dollars and half dolaffair, involving the happiness of two lars, pillared quarters, pistareens, very dear to her, could not be other- shillings and sixpences, copper cents of

The opportunity of selling the land | ington, as everybody knew, was her | lectors at a premium, and some golden | pride and treasure.

> And she thought well of the young counselor. Grandfather Lathrop had told her much of the forefathers, men upright, wise, resolute, religious, patriotic, capable. As friendly acquaintance disclosed the admirable traits of young Gurdon, he seemed to her a noble representative of all that was best in the heroes of these oldtime tales. She felt convinced that somewhere in the past there had been a link of kindred between his family and hers, and could see in all that was happening the guiding hand of Providence.

> The widow Huntington, by natural aptitude and acquired skill, was a perfect housekeeper, with a rare faculty for making everybody comfortable. A slight illness under her nursing became rather a luxury than other-The delicious cakes, jellies, wise. and refreshing beverages, the soups, sauces and desserts compounded by her intelligence, revealed possibilities unknown to Miss Lucretia's desultory housewifery. Under her quiet supervision the Lathrop home assumed a marvelous transformation. Rooms long closed to the good sunlight once more welcomed its reviving rays. Cleaned, aired and dusted, with India mattings, frilled white muslin curtains, open doors and windows, cheer reigned within and the exterior gave evidence of living occupants. Miss Lucy's artistic touch brightened the place beautiful needlework.

> When the wedding day was set, Miss Lucretia decided that the occasion should be one worthy of the best days of the old house. Friends of the young people far and near were bidden to the marriage, and if any ghosts of departed Lathrops lurked in corners or closets, they were made aware of an incoming century by the voices of happy guests.

Though Grandfather Lathrop had apparently left little negotiable coin, Miss Lucretia knew very well that in the till of the old wooden chest that stood in the southwest chamber were certain gunnybags which in her time had never been untied. Considering them a sacred trust, she had never explored their mysteries, but that they held an accumulation of silver and some gold coins she understood. Very likely they were now uncurrent and to leave them as a sort of nest egg she had placed a stout sack that held the savings of her many years of toil. No sentiment had come into the She felt that they were her own, and The lack of that she had every right to use them

So it came to pass that a singular wise than interesting. Lucy Hunt- rare dates that were sought by col-

eagles and half eagles. The source was found to 'be Miss Lathrop, and she was besieged for certain silver pieces long out of circulation and so rare as to be worth more than their weight in gold. Eager connoisseurs from the cities, hearing of this remarkable hoard, came to seek for dates long unattainable, and Miss Lucretia's fortunes seemed to be in the ascendant.

It was long before she would consent to the exploring of the old Lathrop gunnybags, but, considering that the true heirs were already upon the scene, there appeared no good reason for delay. So, one day she gave to her children Gurdon and Lucy the key to the forefather chest, with leave to bring to light the long hidden gunnybags. They raised the lid with care, but curiosity prevailed; the bags were lifted and conveyed down stairs, where, on the sitting froom table they were reverently unclosed.

A bonanza indeed their contents proved. Buried in darkness and seclusion, had lain unsuspected by Miss Lucretia a real treasure, the hoard of dead and gone generations of Lathrops. Uncurrent, indeed, but rich in value to the numismatologist; coins of the sixteenth century, gold and silver pieces of many lands, English guineas, sovereigns, crowns, florins and shillings, a lion d'or of the Netherlands. guilders and gulden, a Saxon Augustus of 1784; French louis d'ors, francs and with flowers, pictures, gay ribbons and livres; German ducats, ducatoons and thalers; rix dollars of the North, doubloons, pistoles and sequins of the South; and many rare pieces of the early coinage of the American states; an affluence of numismatic richness.

Love and tender care had done much for Miss Lucretia. The peace and content of her later days had paid ample indemnity for the joylessness of her previous experience. Beloved, revered, served with filial devotion, it may truly be said of her, "at evening time it shall be light."

The friendly influences of a life of ease and abundance were apparent in the once uncomely spinster. Long ago she had discarded the pernicious practice of snuff taking, and her face was fairer than in her first youth. Handsomely dressed, as by the dutiful care of Lucy she always was, her snow-white hair adorned by caps of finest thread lace and dainty ribbon, ever gracious and dignified in manner, she had become a remarkably nice looking and agreeable old lady.

To see her going up the broad aisle of the old Conrgegational church leaning trustfully on the arm of her beloved Gurdon, her face beaming with the light of a happy spirit, was a pleasant sight. Her life of leisure gave much opportunity for profitable reading, a privilege denied to her youth and middle age, and in the summers she made many little journeys. Once she went to the ancient home of her family in Con-

(Continued on page twenty-one.)







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## Watermelons and Canteloupes

By Mrs. G. T. Drennan

The old-time disfavor toward watermelons has disappeared since cold storage has become general. Luscious melons, ripened to a nicety, are as fresh and sweet when shipped hundreds of miles, on cold storage, as when plucked from the vines. They are all ready to serve, requiring none of the work around the hot stove that puddings and pies, custards and cakes require. Cool and refreshing, they are Nature's own offering for the hot summer and early fall days.

Watermelon Dessert.—Cut in thick crosswise or lengthwise slices and provide each person with a silver fork. For both lunch and dinner watermelon just off the ice is an ideal dessert.

Watermelon Sherbet. - Scrape the red meat out of the rind, remove the seeds, and freeze. Use all of the water that collects in each half. Pulp the meat and water together before putting it in the freezer. No sugar is required for sherbet but melon ice to be frozen and molded must have a teacupfull of sugar to each quart of melon-meat and water. A few black seeds interspersed adds ornament to the molded ice.

Canteloupe for Breakfast.-Cut in halves, scrape out the seeds, lay a piece of ice in each half, and slice in sections, serving several slices to each person, with salt and pepper. Now and again sugar and nutmeg are preferred, but that is the exception.

Canteloupe for Dessert. - Select the small, sweet nutmeg melons, such as the Jenny Lind and the Golden netted varieties. Cut them in half, either crosswise or lengthwise, and fill with ice cream. The cream takes its flavor from the melon, and cream and melon meat are eaten together, with the spoon. Few desserts so well deserve the name of manna or nectar, the food of angels and of the gods of mythology.

Regarding the healthfulness of melons, eat the heart of the watermelon and the half-inch edge of the meat of the canteloupe. Avoid eating the meat of either near the rind. Avoid over, or underripe melons. A plug can easily be taken out of a water melon, thereby distinctly showing the quality from the rind to the heart. The plug can be replaced to keep out the air.

Canteloupes are judged by the appearance of the rind. Ripe canteloupes of certain kinds are yellow, heavily netted. The New Orleans Market and the Gem, for instance, are green when ripe, but the seams along the rinds are yellow and the netted lines are yellow. If it should be that ice is not available when the melons are brought to the rural home, fresh from the sweet, dewy green patch, have a tub of water and keep the melons in it till ready to serve. A tub under the well shelter, filled with water, keeps melons cool and

#### Answers to Correspondents.

Mrs. B. W. W., Norfork, Va.-Citron is the preserved rind of the citron watermelon. Allow two pounds of sugar to each pound of the rind and flavor strongly with ginger and mace. Prepare the rind after the usual formula, and cut it into fancy shapes with a sharp knife or tin cake cutters of pretty patterns. After filling the jars with the citron and syrup, screw the lids on tightly, set aside for a week; then reboil the syrup, add more sugar and more water, making more thick, hot syrup, flavor with mace and ginger and pour hot over the citron in the jar and screw on the tops and it will keep for years. The rind, somehow, has a tendency to retain moisture enough to thin the first syrup. This simple item of the second boiling of the syrup is worth a great deal. It perfects the citron. It insures its keeping well.

Mrs. Bennet, Altoona, Ky.-Mangoes are eaten like pears or any other ripe fruit. They are soft and pulpy and finger bowls and napkins are called into use when mangoes are eaten at table. They are luscious and sweet, without the acid that characterizes all fruits except bananas and pears.

Miss Mary P., Atlanta, Ga. - The acid pomegranate is brilliant red on the outside of the rind, and the seeds are clear and transparent, of brightest red. The sweet kind has golden rind and amber seeds.

Mrs. Martin B. B., West Grove, Pa. - Sponge cake is light and easily made with baking powder, but the richest kind, that keeps fresh longest, is made of eggs, sugar and flour, as many as six eggs to each half pound of sugar and flour.

Mrs. William McC., Lapark, Pa.-Allow onehalf hour for spinach to boil. The cookery books say ten or twenty minutes, but it tastes better boiled half an hour.

Mrs. Thos. B .- The "fifth quarter" of the beef includes sweet breads, heart, tripe, heels, brains and the ox-tail for soup. The value depends on how they are prepared for market. 'Calf's foot jelly'' is the best product of the

Mrs. Cora B., Providence, R. I.-Your recipe calls for too many spices, otherwise it is excellent. The best mango pickles are made of green canteloupes cut in half, cleaned out and pickled. After they have been in vinegar for a week, take them out and fill each half with cucumber pickle chopped up, grated horse radish, onion chopped fine and any little good thing the store room affords, say raisins cut in halves, brandy cherries, chow chow, and a slice of lemon to each half. Mace in small blades, black and cayenne pepper and alspice in moderation, must be incorporated with the ingredients, the halves both filled and white mustard seed drilled over each, until every interstice is filled with the seeds. Also, in the beginning, rub white mustard seeds over the inside of the

(Continued on Page twenty-one.)

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#### THE MOTHER'S MEETING

By Victoria Wellman

"God could not be everywhere-so He made Mothers."

#### The Commonplace Life.

"A commonplace life," we say, and we sigh; But why should we sigh as we say The commonplace sun in the commonplace sky Makes up the commonplace day.

The moon and the stars are commonplace things, And the flower that blooms, and the bird that sings,

But dark were the world, and sad our lot If the flowers failed, and the sun shone not.

And God, who studies each separate soul, Out of commonplace lives makes His beautiful

Susan Coolidge.

#### Busy Mothers.

How easily one may fall from heights to which one has climbed! Just as the thought that a victory over events, or emotions, or habits grows to pleasing certainty, "the perversity of inanimate things," or of humans whose lives touch ours, an unexpected loss or other blow along material lines, and like a puff our serenity, philosophy, and even the desire to attain, We are shocked to find vanishes. how commonplace our lives really are; and here arises our danger: for to live a commonplace life sweetly is no small

Blue Mondays come and go in varied forms of trial of backbone and grit. Tuesdays find us perspiring yet firm; if washing and ironing must be done we do it-in a martyr-like way at times or, when our spirits rise superior, with cheery resolution. The trials of the week, we rejoice to know, come one day at a time. The busy mother, however, loses her elastic resistance to the monotonous yet varied strain of duties if her nights are spent nursing children and if there never comes a holiday-a real holiday, not a new form of labor called thus. Sunday, too, is not in many homes a day of less care. A careless disregard is shown too often to the nursing mother in summer which results in her overworking. In time, as things are now, it may be that only rich mothers whose leisure is assured, may enjoy the luxury of feeding their own babes as Nature intended. farmer would not deny the effects of irregular and unfit conditions on milch cows, but seems to expect Providence to work a miracle in case of his sadly worn, discouraged, overheated, toiling wife.

There is such a difference, too, in fault and a dull obstinacy causes all up sure that mother is "cross."

dragging, tired body. It is maddening to see such people work their life's brightness out by endless steps, and consider how others less faithful (but also less obstinate) in far less time, without exhaustion, of body and soul, accomplish wonders-in fact "work all around" the sullenly faithful plodder, whom nothing short of an earthquake can move in newer, better ways.

One may shirk conscientiously. It is a choice of duties at times. To be "too tired" may be a sin in many homes where a mother's influence is all or the only strong power for good. For instance, one may dust once so thoroughly that the results far excel some people's many daily dustings. To "shirk" does not mean dirty corners, or dust and lint in bedrooms. It is a "knack" each must learn.

The point to remember in these busy days as Autumn creeps on silently sure, is that busy mothers are more than houseworkers, and must teach others to feel willing and glad to save mother's steps because home is not home without her. It is a worthy ambition, to be sure, to have "lots of pickles and jelly and canned stuff.' A lazy woman who would not think of such labor at all would seem ugly in our mental vision, while the pale, weary woman who toils late and rises early wears a halo, although we pity her for any mistaken ideas about herself. Self annihilation is not God's will or way.

Oh, mothers, so weary, discouraged, Worn out with the cares of the day, You often grow cross and impatient, Complain of the noise and the play; For the day brings so many vexations, So many things going amiss; But, mothers, whatever may vex you, Send the children to bed with a kiss.

#### Young Mothers.

Selected.

The inexperience, wifely love, and ambition of a young mother too often combine in the dire result of causing her to begin, unconsciously, a life of semi-invalidism. The cares and actually necessary burdens of married life are not too heavy for the happily married woman; but the semi-invalid is not happily married though a brave show may be kept up. There may be no more visible sign than petulance and chronic irritation; the workers and their methods. It seems husband sighs or fumes because Jennie with some that the disposition is at is so changed. The children grow An would-be helpers to despair of altering unpleasant home atmosphere can are not to be given on full stomachs, what can be seen to be useless over- scarcely hold an erring man's fancy or but time allowed for digestion. work, a heavy, drudging spirit in a charm a more virtuous nature. Boys

who live in such homes are fond of | \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* the street.

Pay heed to yourselves young mothers, especially you who have not lived according to physical culture laws and have borne children in hardship and pain. Do not begin heavy housework, or work in cold and damp, nor lift too heavy loads; in short live gently, avoid excitement, and in time your full strength will return. Do not expect too much while nursing, but do plan to use yourself well for baby's sake while nursing the child.

Teach the child its habits of regularity now, in diet, sleep and play. At two month's old it may be difficult. The beginnings of good are yours now. Young as he is, baby knows who rules. Without crossness but much unchanging firmness, any mother may teach a healthy babe to obey-smilingly. Loving obedience is so sweet. The colicy baby requires endless wisdom and patience lest a crying habit be formed.

I would earnestly urge my readers to scrimp if nceessary, but somehow to earn or borrow a mother's magazine each month. It will often cheer you with helpful advice, it will come as a friend in need when illness or some moral question puzzles you and you fear to ask other's help. There are several excellent periodicals along this line. I shall be pleased to send sample copies of those I love best because of their aid in actual experiences of mine, to all who send their

"A mother's life is her child's best copybook."

#### Mother's Problems.

What is the best general plan for daily use for a tiny infant? This question is one the average woman desires to have answered. The average baby has, however, many exceptions. There is, for instance, "the irregular baby," who fits to no theories save his own. One must not treat the summer baby like the winter baby in dress, though in diet one may follow the same rules for both.

Delicate babies are better for sun baths-letting them lie naked on your lap on a blanket, with sunshine streaming over their flesh-oil rubs and salt baths. Sponging daily, with three full baths weekly, is safer for frail children than many hot soapbaths which do very well for robust children. Cleanliness is an aid to health because the skin is a wonderful organ, or serves as one, and rightly used plays a too little appreciated part in all health-restoring processes. certain valuable blood remedy insists on the use of their -- internally, soap externally and ointment on all visible eruptions. The soap is medicated but the greatest value it has, after all, is to keep the skin doing good work.

The morning sponge and evening hot bath is my preferred rule. These (Continued on page twenty-one.)

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Kaiser knew that, and was as quiet as

a mouse, while Bob, trying to forget

the new play he had made up, buried

his face in his book and said over the

Presidents of the United States or a

It was a few days after the birthday

that a dreadful sorrow came to Bob.

He and Kaiser had had a holiday, and

the morning had been unusually jolly

with a picnic in the orchard-it was a

warm spring day-and a long play in

the barn. Then Kaiser ran off to

play "Hide and Seek," and Bob

find him. He whistled and called:

'Kaiser, you rascal, where are you?''

He ran through the orchard—even into

was hoarse and tired; but no answer-

ing bark greeted his strained ears.

But for once he couldn't

rule in arithmetic.

hunted him.

### For the Children

#### A Dog of Quality.

(A Prize Winner in our recent contest.)

By Rhodes Campbell.

forward as he came near the house, and saw the face he looked for-a boy's-pressed close to the pane. A moment later the boy himself was out on the piazza.

"Oh, Uncle Alec! did you get him?' he called out in an anxious voice.

For answer, a big Irish setter leaped out of the carriage and bounded up the steps. Boy and dog fell over each other in a confused ball on the floor. as the doctor drove off to the stable, laughing.

When Dr. Alec McKenzie came into the living room, the boy was down before the open fire with his new playmate, romping and caressing him by turns

"He knows me already," he exclaimed.
"We're friends — oh, Uncle Alec, you couldn't have bought me a present I'd like better than this. I shall never be lonely again."

A little shadow came into the doctor's face. "I'm afraid it is lonely, Bob," he said, "but never mind; some day when I have a Fortunatus purse, we'll go off for a good time." Here the further door opened and the face of Jane Barrows looked in, frowning.

"A dog as I'm a livin woman!" she exclaimed. "As if I didn't have enough to do already without feedin' and carin' for a beast like that!"

"Oh, Jane, I'll care for him. I'll do every-

Jane looked at the eager face and her voice softened. "Well, come in to your supper, or the muffins will get cold," she said.

The two went into the little diningroom, leaving the newcomer behind. He looked wistfully after them but he was too well trained to go to supper Through the open unless invited. door he watched his new master and made up his mind what manner of boy he was; but it was too late for thathe loved Bob already!

Dr. McKenzie, to his sorrow, looked almost as young as a boy, himself. For it is a grave fault for a doctor to So the months passed and a year had

as a doctor's carriage drove up the trust themselves to any but solemn, long winding driveway leading to a gray-haired men. He and Bob were lonely farmhouse. The doctor leaned alone in the world. The doctor's parents had died when he was twenty, leaving a younger sister to his care. This sister married in a short time and when Bob was two years old, died of a prevalent fever. Her husband, an army officer, was killed in the war with Spain, leaving Bob to his dear friend and brother-in-law. Dr. Mc-Kenzie, and his sole legacy as to property, this little farm in the county where he was born. So the struggling young doctor, glad of a home, settled here and was trying to build up a practice among the country folk, already devoted to old Dr. Warnock whose methods were as antiquated as his education was lacking. Jane Barrows, whose forbidding face belied her

The rain poured down in torrents be too young—sick folks are afraid to



"Through the open door Kaiser watched his new master."

fortunes ever since. It was to this Listening, he heard the sound of stifled home that Kaiser, of royal canine blood, came when his mistress, leaving for a in the stair closet, lay Bob. far-away land, had given him to the doctor, and the doctor had given him uncle spoke to him; to Bob.

Now, after his lessons were learned every morning, there were no more dragging hours for Bob. Out doors in, close upon his heels came or Kaiser. Rollicking in the snow, playing circus in the attic on rainy days dressed up in Dr. Alec's or even Jane's clothes, there was nothing Kaiser wasn't willing to do, provided Bob was with him.

thing-see what a dear he is!" said when a baby, and had followed his the house which was strangely still. sobs, and there, lying face downward

He raised a tear-stained face as his "Oh, Uncle Alec," he sobbed, "Kaiser is gone; something dreadful has happened or he would have come back. What shall I do without Kaiser? Do you think that some hunter may have shot him?" Uncle Alec tried to comfort the distressed lad. He hunted, advertised, and made inquiries far and near, but desolate indeed, mourning daily for his friend.

gone, and Bob was ten years old—a he lay hidden in the wood, a voice had large, strong fellow living out of called him softly by name, and a doors, and studying far less than many piece of meat was placed under his good folk might have thought neces- nose. Kaiser smelled carefully, then sary. For the little country school rolled a delicious morsel into his was far away and poorly taught, so mouth, and then he felt a rope about Dr. Alec became teacher as well as his neck, and he was lifted, strangely father. Bob's lessons were short and stupid and quiet, into a wagon near few, but they must be well learned. by, and was whirled away.

When he wakened-for Kaiser had been drugged-he was miles away from the wood and the home he loved, and on a train city-bound. His new master had a face which Kaiser could read. It was a low, keen crafty face. Dan Bowen was a man who had idled through life, working when needful, but cruel, worthless and worse. He was at present an organ grinder, and seeing Kaiser's tricks once when tramping through the country, was determined to secure him for his new vocation.

And now Kaiser had a hard life as he went from place to place, collecting money and playing tricks and even dancing-oh, that was a disgraceful the woods beyond—shouting until he thing for a Kaiser to do! To play with his friend Bob at any thing was a different matter from playing before When Dr. Alec came home late, no a motley crowd and at the command boy and dog came flying down the of this hard, exacting man!

in misfortune as well as in prosperity. He bore it all—the petty tricks fit for poodles of low degree-the blows, the tiresome life. even the loss of food and sleep, with a dignity which those who know the race would have seen and appreciated.

He longed for the farm as he never had longed for the home of his first mistress whose heart was indifferent, though not cruel. He dreamed of Bob with his jolly laugh, his strong loving arms, his constant companionship, until he cried when he wakened. Once he watched his chance and ran off-oh, how he ran! But he was caught and brought back to his master who heat him until poor Kaiser lay down on his straw unable

"I'll teach you to run off," said Dan with an evil laugh as Kaiser lay motionless.

The weeks dragged on and still Kaiser held his noble head high and uttered never a whine over, his fate. not dreaming that rescue was near.

As he went through the usual program in a beautiful Western city, a handsome brougham drove near, and a lady and little girl watched him as he earned more nickles and dimes than his master had ever possessed before.

"Oh mamma, you promised to buy no Kaiser was found, and Bob was me a dog, and there is the one I want -iust look how smart he is, and yet he looks as if he had a hard life! Do, Meanwhile, where was Kaiser? As do ask that horrid man if he will sell

comes the dog for our money!"

looked thin and not very attractive to her eyes. Then she looked at Hester, flushed and excited. She was her only child and had been very ill. She beckoned to the man, who was furtively watching her. Dan told her that he couldn't possibly part from his dog; then he set an absurdly high price. Again Mrs. Atherton hesitated.

Hester caught her by the arm: "Oh mamma," she said, "I'll do without my doll-house and go-cart and my new hat-oh anything for this dog!"

Ten minutes later Kaiser was in the broughan. He could not believe his good fortune. His patient, human eyes, large and dark, looked gratefully into Hester's face. "He's trying to tell us how that man treated him!" cried the little girl, patting his big head. "Never mind, I'll love you," she added.

The brougham drove up before an elegant house, the front door opened as if of itself, and the three-lady, child, and dog-went into fhe beautiful interior. Kaiser's new life had begun. It was a very different life from the one with Robert. Nothing could quite equal that. But Hester, though spoiled in some ways, was a warm-hearted little girl. She was getting well, and Kaiser helped her. The dog grew to his former good looks with food and care. The servants at first looked upon him with disfavor, but Kaiser's good behavior won them over. Mrs. Atherton found him a splendid watch-dog, and was also grateful to him for giving hor child so much pleasure. A day came when she loved him as ardently as did Hester. It was the day they took one of their outings on the lake. There was a large party of children with a few of the parents. They were on a fine large boat. Hester had insisted on Kaiser's going with them. "He's so good, and minds so well," she said.

Hester was an excitable child. She grew very lively over a game on deck, and hardly knowing what she did, climbed on to the railing. In some way, -no one ever knew just howin another moment she had lost her balance and was in the deep blue water below. The mother gave a cry which startled everyone. They ran to the railing, and looked into the waves. Someone called to a man below, but before anything could be done there was a spring, the sight of a dark falling body, and then Kaiser's head appeared above the water.

Those who watched scarcely breathed as their eyes were fastened upon the swimmer. A head-this time a golden one-came up for the second time. Would the dog seize the child's clothes. in time?

Then they saw Kaiser turn, holding something in his strong teeth, and come slowly towards the boat. Still in the sunshine, and about his neck the watchers-even the little children were a boy's arms, while a voice full -gave no sign. They dared not, for

him., See, he'll be gone in a minute even now the faithful setter might -he's looking this way-oh here fail. Fortunately Hester was small and slight, and Kaiser's recemt care Mrs. Atherton hesitated. The dog had given him his old strength and

> Nearer and nearer came the twowould Kaiser hold out?

In the dog's mind there was no doubt at all. He knew that he must save his litte playmate. It was in the day's work.

Strong, friendly hands were stretched out from a small boat to take the two in, and when they were safe, what a cheer rent the air! But with the cheer were sobs.

Mrs. Atherton could not believe the good news, until Hester was in her arms, had opened her eyes, and spoken. Kaiser had dragged himself to her feet and lay there exhausted. But in two hours, both child and dog were almost as well as ever, Hester, pale and subdued, and hovering over Kaiser the rest of the trip. It was after this episode that Hester's mother took Kaiser into her heart.

Meanwhile Bob mourned still for his old playmate. Uncle Alec offered to bring him another dog in vain.

"I can't bear to have another one, just as if Kaiser were dead. I may find him some day," said the boy. It was another rainy day that Dr. McKenzie drove up to his door after dark. Bob was at the window waiting for him as usual. The two were very dear to each other.

"Well, Bob, how would you like to go to a city to live—a city on a great lake?" asked his uncle, as he drew the boy towards him later as they sat on the big couch. Bob's eyes grew large with wonder, "I'd like it," he said, 'perhaps I'll find Kaiser.'' Then Dr. McKenzie told him of a letter he had received from the eminent physician under whom he had practiced at a hospital, offering him a position as his assistant. Uncle Alec was like a boy in his delight.

"Its a big salary Bob, and work that I like, and you can have advantages''-Bob wondered what they were -''and we'll take Jane and have a cozy home, and-and live happy ever after," he said.

Jane stood by the open door.

"Indeed Jane isn't going to be carted over the country as if she was a log," said she, "and I hate cities."

Uncle Alec smiled. He knew that nothing could part her from Bob but

When they were at a hotel in the city where they were to stay until a house could be found Uncle Alec said: 'Bob, I want you to come with me to call on a dear friend of your mother's. She lives on King street."

As they came towards the house, Bob's eyes were staring: "Look!" he said, and then was off before his uncle understood. .

There ahead of him was a great reddish brown dog shining like gold (Continued on page twenty.)





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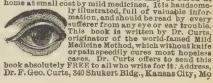


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#### A Strawberry Barrel.

There is one novel and very useful method of growing strawberries where there is even a few square feet of space to devote to it, and strange to say, this little ground space need not be good soil nor even earth. This is to put soil in a barrel and grow the plants in it. For those in towns or cities, or anywhere that there is very little room to spare, it is entirely practicable. I now have a strawberry barrel in my back yard in Washington City that is a perfect picture of health and vigor.

Any kind of a barrel may be used, but a good, strong sugar barrel is very suitable and will only cost ten cents. A syrup or kerosene barrel



would be more durable, but one that will last two seasons is good enough.

The first thing to do is to drive two small nails stave, where each hoop crosses it, and clinch them well. If the

barrel has wire hoops use small staples instead of nails. Nail the bottom head in securely. This will hold all firmly together. Bore four or five small auger holes in the bottom, but none should be in the center, that the water may escape slowly but not quickly through the water pipe that is to be put in the center. Then make three sets of holes in the sides of the barrel, through which the plants are to grow. These should be at least eight inches apart every way. made the lower row in my barrel eight inches from the bottom, the upper one four inches from the top and the middle one half way between these two. There are eight holes in each row, making twenty-four in all. The holes can be made with an auger large or small, or keyhole saw. They should be about one and a half inches in diameter, and it is well to have them a little larger up and down than crosswise of the barrel. There must be a pipe or other means of watering the soil put in the barrel at the center of good, and a few joints of small tile is falo, New York, in 1901. It origi- Indianapolis, Indiana-

Three or four plastering laths nated with Mr. Samuel Cooper of better. of the barrel and reach from the botis very rich and will not bake, but be loose and porous.

All will be ready to set the plants when the above directions have been followed. Some good variety of strawberry must be chosen, and one with perfect flowers is necessary if only one is used, owing to the need of pollination. Marshall, Glen Mary, Splendid and Parker Earle are all suitable and good in every way. Potted plants are the best, but any strong, well rooted ones will do. Place the water pipe in position, and fill up the barrel with the rich soil already prepared as far as the top of the first row of holes, and tramp it down firmly. Then set one good plant at each hole, by carefully putting the leaves through it to the outside, and spreading the roots out on the soil. Fill up to the next row of holes tramp the soil well, as before, and set the next row of plants. Then fill up to through each the last row of holes and set the plants, after which fill to the top of the barrel and set six plants there, in an upright position. The water pipe should be kept in the center during the filling. Pour about five gallons of water slowly into the pipe at once and some on top. If the work is well done and good plants are used none will die, and they will soon begin to make new growth. Keep all runners clipped off as they appear. It will be necessary to water through the pipe and on top of the soil every few days. There will be no weeds to pull, no tillage and no dirty berries when they come. In case of frost all can be covered. It is surprising how much fruit one barrel will produce. Some estimate one quart for each plant, as many fruit stems come out from each one. Any time before growing stops in the fall will do to plant such a strawberry barrel, but the earlier the better and the more fruit may be expected next year. During winter there should be a protection of matting or something to prevent rapid and severe freezing and thawing out of the soil.

#### The Pan-American Strawberry.

One of the very remarkable varieties of the strawberry is a new one it. A short piece of old tin spouting called Pan-American, because it was with a lot of nail holes in it is very first shown at the exposition at Buf-

formed into a tube will do. This Delevan, New York, and has been should be ready to place in the center grown by him for the past few years to such good profit that a few others tom to a few inches above the top. In are now trying it. It is a clear case preparing the soil, get only that which of bud-variation from the Bismark, and is not a seedling; hence it is in all respects like that variety in berry, but the plants behave very differently. A single plant was first noticed to have the habit of making very few runners and blooming and bearing in the summer and fall. The few plants that formed were moved to a separate place and the flower stems that came at the regular season cut off. This caused a strong development of the plants, but mostly in the way of large crowns and a few short but strong runners. When the other strawberries were all done fruiting, about the first and middle of July, these sprouts began to bloom again and set fruit. This they kept up until frost stopped them in the fall. A year or two later, during the Pan-American Exposition, where I had charge of the fruit exhibits and made the awards in that department, there was a continuous show of berries of this variety by Mr. Cooper, from July until the close, November 1.

In my own garden there are now, August 1, ripe berries and blossoms on the few plants I have of this variety. It is a very fine berry in every way, especially for amateur use. For fancy market purposes it is also well suited. It is very nice and profitable, too, to have strawberries ripening during the late summer and fall. They will bring a big price at that season. Those living in the South, where the winters are very mild, could have plenty of berries from this variety as late as Christmas. There is no other variety that will bring the same result or anything like them, by the same treatment. It has perfect flowers and is therefore self-fertile.

#### Answers to Correspondents.

Please send me any information possible in regard to preventing 'Black Knots' on plum trees. Also in regard to best fruits to graft on a plum tree. A. G. Page, Jr., Maine. (Continued on page fifteen.)

#### Oil Cure for Cancer

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#### FRUIT NOTES.

Black Knot is a disease which comes from the growth of a fungus in the tender tissues of the plum, cherry and some few other trees. The warts which result from the mass of fungus growth seriously interfere with the branches on which they exist, and finally kill them. The spores from these knots float in the air to other branches and there grow and cause similar knots in the course of time. Spraying the branches with Bordeaux mixture is a preventive measure, as it kills many of the germs before they have had time to develop. When they have germinated and are once inside the bark of the tree there is almost no way to get rid of them except to cut away the branch. Paring away the small knots and coating the places with kerosene, a solution of sulphate of mercury or with Bordeaux mixture is said to sometimes cure them. But the surest of all methods of fighting this disease is to cut

away and burn évery appearance of it on the branches, thus stopping the spread by destroying the sources of infection. The wild plum trees and choke cherry bushes are often full of the warts and act as hotbeds of the disease. All such that are affected should be promptly and thoroughly destroyed with axe and fire.

#### Forgot Himself.

"This offer of your heart and hand is very sudden," said the Summer girl, "but I will take it."

"Ah!" gasped the swell dry goods clerk, badly rattled, "will you take it with you, or shall I send it home?"—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

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#### September Cheer.

"The sultry summer at length is past, The fresh glad earth can breathe at last The cool founts gush from a thousand hills, The wavelets dance in a thousand rills. The cool fresh shadows beneath the trees. The clear blue sky and balmy breeze, Invite to the woods away, away, September is Nature's Holiday."

#### Some Things To Do.

If this be really Nature's holiday, then we too must consider ourselves a part of her machinery; enough at least, to enjoy some of the pleasures that come our way. There are plenty of them-the pleasures I mean, and some of them are to be found in real work itself. But I shall not quarrel with any of our numerous family if they take some days off, and casting labor and care to the winds, find their pleasures in rest and recreation. Only this, there will be some duties that cannot be neglected provided everything about the garden is to be kept in apple-pie order.

It will be the best possible time now to exterminate what weeds have been left over from August for none of them ought to be left to mature their seed. Then too it is the time to watch carefully the maturing vegetables, making sure to note thier desirable points as well as the reverse. Most of us will doubtless have some things growing that are particularly desirable and that we still desire to keep in stock. The finish of these either vegetables or seeds, ought to be carefully prepared for winter storage so that they shall be in the best possible condition for planting or sowing in spring. These ought to be cared for just in the nick of time; even though we forego a day's pleasure. The advantages of careful seed selection can hardly be estimated, and if we give this matter our personal attention, we know then to a certainty just what we are planting or sowing. A vegetable or plant that has done exceptionally well under the conditions we have been able to give it, will very likely be a safe thing to perpetuate or continue to grow. So we should watch their growth and maturing carefully, selecting only the very finest, and if well done, our labor will be rewarded many fold.

Last year, I believe I had something to say of Fairs and fair exhibits. Now this, and the following month is the time for this work, and I know of nothing that combines more 100 Visiting Cards, any name, engraver's style only 30c prepaid. 50 for 20c. Agts. send stamp for samples. A. J. Kirby, 30 V. Ash St., Fall River, Mass.

prizes, but one thing is certain, that sort of lightning is sure to srtike some one; and surely it will not hit us unless we are in line. So the best efforts of all of us are in order and even though we fail of winning the committee prizes we shall not fail of the grand prize always earned through duty will done. Correspond with the officers of the Fairs within reach. Obtain their regulations for exhibitors, and study carefully their classifications and departments. Then take stock of your possessions, and nine chances out of ten, you will find something to fit the case. Then much thought and care is necessary in properly prepraing what you have for exhibition. Many really fine specimens often suffer and fail solely through careless preparation, or noncompliance with the rules governing the classes in which they are exhibited. So scrupulous care as to these points is often the pivotal point upon which success is poised. A careful study of the entire detail will develop many points heretofore unthought of; and ere we finish it we shall discover that we have learned much. So the mere prize-taking is by no means the whole of the matter, though that of itself is good. Then in concluding this matter let me urge that all in so far as possible encourage by attendance and in every other way these means of education.

#### Successes and Failures.

Doubtless some who started in with us in the early spring time, it may be with the best of resolutions, have met with failures and grown discouraged. Well failures to some extent at least, are the common lot of all, for "Into each life some rain must fall." Too much rain may have fallen for some of us-it may be too little has fallen for others. Perchance some of us have labored hard to prepare the ground, and the seed refused to grow while the weeds persisted in growing, and grew and grew in spite of us. These discouragements are hard, but not incurable I think. Rest assured that the worst failure any of us has made, was the failure of not trying. There are some of our readers I fear who made this, the most dismal of failures.

Have any of us had the blues, or got them now? I fear it may be so: but 'that is not altogether bad. I stood at the foot of Lookout mountain one day. The mist and clouds hung heavy above me, the rain was drizof pleasure and real profit, than care- zling, and down where I stood it was



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against the mountain top. Where I stood it was cold and dark and dreary; but the blue sky was still above me. gleaming cheerfully through the rifted clouds. Now let us have an experience meeting by mail and tell our successes and failures. Here is a starter and weshall be more than glad to have others do likewise and tell us where and how they have succeeded and in what they have failed.

Mrs. M. A. M., Nebraska City, Neb .- I want to thank you for your kind letter received in April, and wish to ask you a few more questions. (1) What to do with my plum trees? Since the late frost which came in blooming time, the branches are withering up and looking bare. (2) My rhubarb patch, shaded on the south by plum trees, and on the west by pig pen and other buildings, is so poor. Is it lack of sunshine? (3) My asparagus bed does not yield as much as you claim it ought. I have three rows twenty-four feet long, the stalks are fine but few. Another bed same size, six years old, the stalks are about the size of a slate pencil, the largest as large as a lead pencil. (4) My potato tops back of plum treeswell I wish you could see them, you would think we grew potatoes for the tops only. The potatoes are about the size of walnuts and only few at

ous that leaves are three inches across. when? (6) I transplanted about two They were watered and shaded but only three are living. (7) Can I remove a three-year old peach tree with safety in the fall? (8) Can Elberta peach trees be profitably cut back? The branches are on the ground, and when fruited have to be propped up to keep fruit clean. (9) What do you asparagus? I cannot use the hoe as I never know where the roots are. Why do my radishes refuse to bulb? I have made several sowings with same results.

Here then is a mixture of successes and failures, and we are glad to assist in picking out the tangles in so far as we are able.

(1) It is difficult to say what ails after growth had started might have injured them. But whatever the cause, the best thing to do with them would be to prune out any diseased branches, and spray the trees thoroughly with Bordeaux mixture. Some one there would doubtless have the that. (5) I have a white raspberry very likely you could buy it in dry assign any cause for the gooseberries

much shaded, and had better be taken Is it worth cultivating, and are these up this fall or in the spring and reshoots good for propagating, if so moved to a more sunny spot. (3) Your trouble with asparagus has been plenty of company. After the tops have got their growth, and just before the seed ripens, mow off the tops leaivng them right on the beds. When dry burn them, and then cover the bed with manure. Let it remain until spring, then work it into the bed. (4) Potatoes have a trick of mean by intensive culture as regards sometimes going all to tops, without any apparent reason. It may be a lack of potash which might be remedied by sowing on a liberal amount of wood ashes. They would do very little good applied now for this year; but would be very helpful for the future if applied next spring. The so-called white raspberries are little grown here; yet I think they justly deserve more general attention. the plum trees. A severe late freeze If they succed well there, I should certainly grow them. The root shoots of which you speak are what you will require for propagating. As to the season for planting out, begoverned by general usage there. think however spring would be the better time to set. It certainly would mixture or assist you to prepare it, or be here. (6) I would be unable to fruiting for the first this year. It form at some of the stores. Spray dying. They may have had too much Dept. Y John Garmore Mt. Lookout Cincinnatio.

clouds were drifting and breaking throws up so many side shoots, some them now, and again later in the top for the root, and that very likely three or four feet away and so vigor- season. (2) Your rhubarb is too may be the reason. (7) In this locality, I would not transplant a peach tree large or small in the fall. It might succeed there; but I think spring would be better. (8) Yes, and dozen gooseberry bushes from layers, quite general among growers this the trouble is they should have been in the dry season of early spring. year. So you are not alone but have cut back long ago. At least one-third of the growth should be cut back every year. Your trees will require more than that, at the first fruiting. (9) In general, it means, thorough, persistent and frequent culture from the plowing of the ground until a crop is laid by, or too large to work longer. It means essentially the same for asparagus, for thorough culture is necessary for best results. You will not injure it, by digging and working in it; only do not go deep enough to destroy the crowns. The more you dig, the better it will yield even if now and then a shoot is destroyed. A four or five tine fork is the best tool to work with. Dig it up and do not be afraid. If grass or weeds get too much the start sow on salt, and the more the better. You need not fear to make the ground white. (10) The tendency of all plant life is to go back to the original. Doubtless your radish seed was of some worthless strain that has run out or gone too far back to the original type.

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This is a portrait of one of our small Patients whose life was saved by NERVE-FORCE. Her case was the st stages of Cerebral-Meningitis." She was wasted to a skeleton, and had, of course, been "given up." father, Mr. Edward Rice, writes the grateful testimonial—and it is one that has brought us hundreds of kind letters from people who are of a fibre to understand the wonderful work done by the UNGUENT in this remarkable Her picture shows her to be "worth saving" but her burial garments were made-when Mr. Rice raced out of our offices with the package of NERVE-FORCE in his hands. We saw little Marie a few months ago-in the dainty garments shown in the picture and made by her young mother's own loving hands—and we were thankful. Shrouds are pitiful garments when worn by those prematurely separated from life. The same issue contains a Testimonial from the Rev. Father de Sales Luettschwager, who was saved for his good work by NERVE-FORCE. Also one from Mrs. Rev. C. H. Taintor—a gloriously useful woman who is Assistant Field Secretary of a' Church Building Society. A Testimorial from Mr. James Marr—who came to this country from England as an expert grower of Orchids and was rendered useless to his employer by Locomotor Ataxia (it is curable) is also in this issue. He is now upon his own place making a specialty of Carnations. A Testimonial is also given from the grateful hand of Mr. John O. Baker, a Railroad Engineer cured of Rheumatism, after years of suffering and effort, by NERVE-FORCE. There are Testimonials of the cure of Nervous Prostration and kindred troubles—all from earnest men and women. Some do not believe Testimonials—but these you must believe because they bear the signatures of good and noble men and women. NERVE-FORCE is saving life upon every side. It fails, however, upon certain "Diseases" and these failures are noted in our Publication. No one Remedy will cure all ailments.

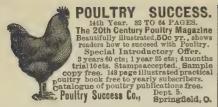
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Conducted by Vincent M. Couch

Those who have suggestions to make or questions to ask are invited to write direct to Mr. Couch at his home, Larkfield, N. Y. Enclose a stamp if you desire a reply.—Ed.

#### Keep a few Hens.

There is hardly a family, rich or poor, living in the country, village or suburbs of a city, that may not with advantage keep a small flock of poultry. With ordinary care it cannot help but prove remunerative and be a means of consuming quantities of kitchen and table scraps, which with many families, amounts to a good deal and is often thrown away. Unlike the work required in caring for a large number of fowls, a very little time is needed to manage and feed the small flock, and there is nothing that will afford greater pleasure to the whole family than ten or twelve hens all of one breed, but this is of secondary importance as compared with what they bring in for the table, in the way of eggs and meat. No one knows how to appreciate good fresh eggs and well fattened chickens until they have them of their own production. A good many have an idea that because their space is limited, so the fowls are unable to roam over broad fields as on the farm, that there is no use in trying to keep them. This is a mistake, for while the farm is an ideal place to raise and keep poultry, some of the largest egg records have been made by yarded hens, and some of the birds in very close confinement at that. The great variety of food generally left over by the family, is a most excellent egg producer, the only trouble in keeping a few hens on such rations is that they are apt to be fed too much and soon become over-fat, but, by a little caution on the part of the feeder this may be avoided and a good many eggs secured during the year from a dozen good young hens.

#### Questions and Answers.

Rabbits:--How should I feed and care for rabbits? Rabbits will eat almost anything that a sheep will eat. All kinds of green stuff in summer season, clover hay, cabbage and grain in winter. Keep the water fresh and the drinking vessels clean and do not allow the hutches or pens to become filthy or damp.

Houdans: - Are houdans a good allround fowl and what is their weight? Where the quarters are dry and sunny they are a very good general purpose fowl, but do not thrive in damp quarters. Lay white eggs and

the number of fowls in the flock and the breed, but a yard of this size is not large enough for any great length of time, for a flock of over one half dozen birds. Small yards without green stuff is not conducive to health and good egg production. Except for heavy breeds a six-foot fence is required. Two one-foot boards at the bottom and four feet of wire.

#### Wants to Build a Hen House.

A Delaware county reader asks me for a plan of cheap poultry house to hold fifty fowls. Make length thirtysix feet, width ten feet, then divide this room into three parts, each ten by twelve feet. Height in front eight feet, rear six feet. This slope will not admit of shingled roof; some one of the many kinds of roofing material may be used. If it is desired to use shingles it will be necessary to give the roof more pitch, say five feet in rear or four feet would be better; the more slant that is given the drier it will keep and the longer it will last. Have the frame of two by four scantling, cover with rough hemlock boards, then with building paper and on this put novelty siding for a weather finish. Plain matched boards, six inch stuff, may be put on inside of roof. This leaves an air space, and makes it warm and dry. Have the door on east end or south side. Windows on southside, size about two by four feet or three by five feet and one for each department. The building should be placed in as sheltered a location as is practicable to have it. I prefer a board floor, but a good many use a gravel bottom with good satisfaction. If an alley way is wanted, then the building will need to be three feet wider. The outside should be given two coats of good paint. This building should not be expensive, yet it makes a warm and comfortable house for this number of hens.

#### A Home Made Brooder.

THE KIND NOT TO BUILD.

"I see Mr. Hawes has built a brooder," remarked my better-half one evening as I sat perusing the columns of "The Poultry Guide." You ought to go over and see it. You know he is such a handy man.

A FORTUNE IN EGGS.

damp quarters. Lay white eggs and do not sit. Not well suited to our market on account of color of flesh.

Weight of cock, seven pounds, hen six pounds.

Clean—Compact—Complete.
Equal to any \$2.00 Pen.

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damp quarters. Lay white eggs and do not sit. Not well suited to our market on account of color of flesh. Weight of cock, seven pounds, hen six pounds.

Size of yards:—I have several varieties of fowls and wish a separate pen for each. My plan is to have all in a row, size 16x24 feet enclosed by a five-foot fence. Much depends upon

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Everything he does is so workmanlike suspicion flashed across me. Bareand neat.

"A truly wonderful man," I replied in sarcastic vein. "But it occurs to me that if Hawes can build a brooder, I can come pretty nearly building one too."

"Do you think you know how?" asked Wifey dubiously.

"Know how? Why it's the simplest thing in the world. All you need is a few boards, a good sized piece of zinc, three by three say, a hammer, nails, and saw. Then knock the affair together, put a small lamp under it, and there you are. Could build one in two hours, and wouldn't cost more than seventy-five cents. You see," I continued growing enthusiastic, "one great advantage in a brooder is that you can take your hens that have hatched out their broods and put them right back to laying again."

"But don't you think it's cruel to deprive the hen of her chickens?" rising strong within her.

'I guess they don't mind it much," I replied. "Hens are the stupidest creatures living. I wouldn't waste any sympathy in that quarter."

With these few remarks I fell to and built a brooder in one corner of the hen house, at a total cost of sixtyseven cents, as shown in the following tabilation:

Several boards (taken from woodpile) no particular value.

1 lb. of nails 5 cts.

1 piece of zinc, 43 cts.

4 strips of woolen cloth (old trouser legs) no value.

1 small lamp 19 cts.

Total 67 cts.

As I explained to Mrs. G., when I had invited her out to view my handiwork, the brooder was a little roughlooking, but appearances are of no consequence so long as a thing is serviceable. Then I showed her the working of the apparatus, and when that they cannot keep up that constant we had looked it all over I am sure she was secretly proud to think that her hubsand could build a brooder as well as some of the neighbors.

I put twenty-seven chicks under the brooder, and was delighted to see how much they enjoyed themselves. a time all went well, although Mrs. G. said she had her doubts about the durability of the zinc sheet. seemed a little thin she thought, but I told her she need have no fear on that score so long as the lamp was regulated properly.

One rainy Sunday morning I was seated comfortably in an armchair looking out at the endless chain of leaden clouds that trailed their bedraggled skirts across the face of our common mother. I was at peace with all the world, and glad to think that I and all my belongings were under cover.

Suddenly I saw a patch of vapor, or mist, or was it smoke, drifting past the window. It came from the direction of the henhouse. A horrible sale.

headed, I ran out to investigate. cloud of smoke was pouring out through the crevices of the henhouse! I rushed back into the house with a vell of "Fire!" that frightened Mrs. G. half out of her wits and caused the baby to set up a howl of alarm. "A pail, bucket, or something, Ouick!" I demanded. Grabbing a pan of dishwater from the sink, I dashed out, opened the henhouse door, and was sent reeling back from a solid wall of black smoke that completely filled the interior. I threw the water in the direction where I knew the brooder lay, amidst the crackling of flames and the piercing. cries of terrified chicks. As I sprinted back for more water I met Hawes who had come over with a bucketful of water too. Then Mrs. G. came to the rescue with a two-quart pailful, followed by Mrs. Hawes with an empty wash basin. By our united efforts we squelched the fire-demon, asked Mrs. G., her motherly feelings and after the smoke had rolled away I rounded up the flock. Strange to say, not a single chick was missing.

Such was the fate that befell our brooder. The flame of the lamp had run up, burning a hole through the zinc and then setting fire to the woodwork. There is nothing more treacherous than a kerosene lamp, and my advice to people about to build homemade brooders is simply the advice of "Punch" to people about to marry, "Don't." Guggenheimer.

#### Grow Up with the Business.

Too many persons start in the poultry business by buying two or

#### Do You Know What It Means to Cure Constinution?

It means to turn aside and throw out of the body all the woes and miseries caused by a clogged up system, and they are many. Constipation means that the bowels are weak, so motion the doctors call peristaltic action. When that stops passages cease, the blood begins to absorb the poisons through the walls of the intestines and thus disease is scattered everywhere. Death often lays its foundation in this way. Torturing diseases like dyspepsia, indigestion, kidney troubles, liver complaints, heart disease, headaches and a hundred and one other complaints start that way. A cure must come through toning up, strengthening and invigorating the bowels. This can be easily, gently, and permanently done by Vernal Saw Palmetto Berry Wine. It is a tonic laxative of the highest class. It builds up the bowels, restores the lost action and adds new life and vigor. Only one small dose a day will positively cure constipation of any degree by removing the cause of the trouble. Try it. A free sample bottle for the asking. Vernal Remedy Co., 28 Seneca Bldg., Buffalo, N, Y.

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### DRESSED IN SATIN AND LACE

and looks exactly like the picture shown here. A perfect beauty with turning bisque head, lovely curly hair, pearly teeth, natural sleeping eyes, jointed body, real slippers, stocking, etc., and is completely dressed from head to foot. Understand this is not a printed cloth or rag doll, nor a cheap plaster of Paris doll, such as some concerns give, but a real sleeping Bisque Doll nearly

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#### PLANTS FOR FOLLAGE

6 Ferns cannot be dispensed with in elaborate decorations for the house. They are as useful in producing a graceful effect as any plants of which we know. Do not crowd them together, but give room for the development of the fronds; their growth is rapid, and they soon double their original size.

#### FOR THE HANGING BASKET.

7 Oxalis—An interesting class of bulbs, desirable for Winter flowering in pots, producing an abundance of bloom. The leaves resemble the clover leaf and plants require no special care.

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Plants Free. We will give you any two plants described above for securing only one new subscription to Vick's Family Magazine at our special 25c rate and 5 cents additional for postage. Any four of the plants for only two subscriptions and 8 cents extra for postage. All 7 plants (the whole Window Garden) and also Rexford's book, "How to Make the Window Garden a Success," for securing but three subscriptions and 10 cents for postage.

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with large numbers of fowls, perhaps crowded for room, and the result is a failure. A city man bought a farm in this vicinity last year, and during the fall picked up altogether about three hundred hens. He tried all winter to start them laving, and he told me, about the middle of last February, they had just commenced to lay a few eggs; one day he had gathered seven. This don't sound much like the story they tell us about this and that one clearing two or and three hundred dollars from that number of hens during a fall and winter.

I say again, start in moderately and increase as the circumstances warrant. To house and care for two or three hundred hens at a time requires a good deal of room and yard space, as well as numerous other things, many of which are not at hand. It costs a good deal to feed them, and when the year rolls around the owner finds the of surprise and joy kept saying: flock has not half paid for itself, that is, he will find this out if he has kept an account so he knows "where he is at."

Poultry writers all over the country are telling about the wonderful profits made with hens, and how this man has made three or five hundred dollars lip quivered. "That is my dog, and in a winter, but mind you, they don't tell anything about the fellow who put Ned," she called imperiously. all he had in "chickens" and lost the whole thing. In many instances such talk as this does more harm than good, then on Dr. McKenzie, barking for by inducing people to invest in a business they know little or nothing about, and one big failure like this child. "My dear," he said, "if you damages the industry to the extent that it requires many successes to heal

It is entirely wrong to take any large business on your hands that you know nothing about. Only a very small per cent of those who do so will succeed. The man who keeps three or four hundred hens and gets a big egg vield through the fall and winter is the one who understands his business in every detail. To begin with, he hatched out the pullets early in the spring, cared for and fed them with a view of making layers of them, and the probabilities are that the stock these pullets were bred from was selected with great care by one who thoroughly understood their laying habits, and in this way he was able to secure good laying. Too many aim for a great number regardless of what any of them may be able to do. It's not the feed and care alone that make the profit. Some people have found this out, others have not. To undertake to get eggs out of a poor laying strain of fowls is like trying to get "blood out of a stone."

A dozen fowls is all that an inexperienced person should take on his hands at the commencement. Then if they are to be kept for eggs, select only those that are found to be good layers, and breed from these. Study hem carefully, and do not increase

ning. They are generally inexperienced farms there is range enough for a great many fowls, but the farmers are not the ones who are making the most profit out of hens by any means. Range alone is not all that is required. There must be good poultry house, coops and many other things that the experienced poultry man knows about.

To the one who has had no practical experience with fowls I would say, commence with a dozen head this season, and if you find them agreeable to your tastes and profitable in the way of producing fall and winter eggs then make more room and increase the number, but be careful that the number don't get beyond the facilities for taking care of them. For any one who has the room and time to care for them properly, there is a good profit in small flocks of poultry.

#### A DOG OF QUALITY.

(Continued from page thirteen.)

'Kaiser, my dear old Kaiser!'

Uncle Alec aslo saw something that Bob didn't, -a little girl in a dainty white dress who was coming down the steps of the house they were to visit. She stopped short and stared too at the dog and boy. Then her his name is Ned," she said.

But for once the dog refused to obey. He was jumping first on Bob He seemed beside himself. Uncle Alec hurried forward to the will take us to your mother we'll explain."

Hester looked up into the frank face and felt that somehow it would all come out right even if things did look so very dark. In another half hour things were explained, but both children looked very sober.

Both loved Kaiser-yet one must give him up-which one? And then came Uncle Alec's voice-"'My dear Mrs. Atherton," he said to Hester's mother, "why not let the children have the dog in partnership, week and week about? I'm to live here somewhere when I can get a house and I knew that my sister would love nothing better than that her boy and your girl should be playmates." "And why couldn't you take the house opposite?" asked Mrs. Atherton. 'It is for rent and I should think it was just what you want-it is small, but with every convenience and, look, how pretty it is!"

Uncle Alec went to the window and declared it was an excellent suggestion. With him to think was to act. Two weeks later Jane, with her appalling energy, had the house in perfect order and Dr. Alec and Bob felt as if it had always been their home.

Kaiser-lucky fellow!-had two homes. It was hard for him to tell which he liked best, and whether master and mistress were dearer. So, the number unless the facilities for wise dog! he didn't try. He loved

three hundred hens right at the begin- | handling them are supplied also. On | them both and served them well. Bob and Hester were fast friends, as well as Mrs. Atherton and Dr. Mc-Kenzie. And if any child who may happen to read this simple story cares to see Kaiser, let him go up King street West to numbers ten hundred and hundred and thirty-one, in that city on the Lake-but to tell the name is hardly fair, is it?

#### When Ma's Away.

Tell you what, when ma's away We have jolly times, I say, When we make a glorious noise, There's no one to sing out, "Boys, Do be quiet!" And at night, If we stay up late, all right, We've a picnic every day, At our house when ma's away

We don't have to any more Scrape our boots clean at the door. No one scolds us when we fight; Faces washed or not, all right. No one hollers us to stop And pick up things we drop. In the alley we can play With the Smiths, when ma's away.

But somehow-I hardly know-'Course it's fun, as such things go, Still, it kind of seems to me Rather lonesome like, you see, No one round to smile or sing, Help a fellow do a thing, Splain the lessons every day, Keep us straight-when ma's away.

No one here when things are blue, Just to tell us what to do Cheer us up and make it right. And talk serious like at night, Hear our prayers and tip-toe round Till we're sleeping snug and sound. Something's wrong, in word or play, At our house, when ma's away

L. M. Montgomery .

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#### THE GOOSE THAT LAID THE GOLD-EN EGG.

(Continued from page nine.)

necticut, and when on searching the records it was found that the two divergent lines of descent met in a certain Colonel Simon Lathrop, who commanded an expedition to Louisburg, and who was but three removes from the Rev. John Lathrop who came from London to New England in 1634, she saw more clearly than ever that in a reunion of the two branches of the family, Gurdon and Lucy had simply fulfilled the leading of Manifest Destiny.

Mrs. Gurdon Lathrop has a cabinet of singular and valuable curios chosen with a discrimination and intelligence that command the admiration of connoisseurs. But none is more prized by her than the family heirlooms are. On a special table in a corner of her sittingroom is an object with a historv. One who will raise an elaborate piece of embroidery will discover a goose, an iron goose; and if the unexpected disclosure should cause surprise, "why not," says Mrs. Lucy. "Why grudge due honors to the benefactor of the family? This is the goose that laid the golden egg. If there had been no goose, no happy Lathrops would be living in this house today. It was the goose that saved the ancestral home. This is the good bird that preserved the precious hoard of the Lathrops and made our fortunes.

"But for it I should never have come to Hillsdale, never have seen dear Aunt, Lucretia, I should have been living on the old Huntington farm at Bloomsbury. Or, if it had been sold, the papers would have been drawn by old Squire Smith, and I never, never, should have known the dearest, noblest, wisest, best of all the men in the wide world, Gurdon Lathrop."

#### WATERMELONS and CANTELOUPES. (Continued from page ten.)

rinds or mangoes. Pack in a widemouthed stone jar after the mangoes have been joined together and securely wrapped and tied with a thread, and fill the jar with vinegar seasoned with sugar, black pepper and white mustard seeds. Have plenty white mustard seeds. Olive oil, over the top of the vinegar, preserves the pickle and also flavors nicely.

Miss Sarah H. H., Atlanta, Ga. - It is milk in custard pies that causes them to sour in summer. Lemon custards and other custard pies will not keep twenty-four hours if milk is an ingredient. Use water and cornstarch in place of milk.

#### MOTHER'S MEETING.

(Continued from page eleven.)

Care must be used with hot baths for too great heat may cause convulsions. Hot salt baths are strengthening and soda baths relieve prickly heat. When two months old you may teach baby the mysteries of a tiny bath tub, using tepid water and allowing no shock nor alarm.

Mother's Scrapbook.

The good old rule for sore mouth is a mixture of borax, honey and sage, made thick and swabbed on with a cotton swab tied on a stick. Swab the sores several times a day. In severe

Mother's Scrapbook.

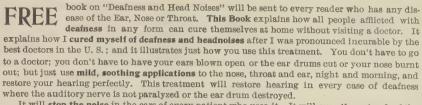
The day that summer died.

Crept forth to catch the blueness of the skies, The hills grew dim and hazy as a dream Or like a vision viewed by tearful eyes, A growing shadow, chill and vaguely drear, Swept o'er the landscape like a rising tide, and winter's footsteps sounded all too near—The day that summer died.

Emma G. Weston, in Youth's Companion.

# Cure Deafness

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It will stop the noise in the ears of every patient who uses it. It will cure the catarrh of the nose, throat and head in any form in every case. It will eradicate the catrrrhal poison and all diseased conditions of the blood from the system in every case.

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THIS TREATMENT CURED.

Mrs. Millie A. Greenman, of Garvin, Minn., who had abcesses and ulcers and deafness for several

years.

Mrs. C. Schwenk, of Valley Junction, Iowa, of deafness and head noises.
J. J. Fuse, of Jacksonville, Fla., of almost total deafness.
H. H. Miller, of New Orleans, La., of deafness and head noises.
Mrs. I. J. Bolton, of Kansas City, Mo., who was so deaf she had to use an ear trumpet. Restored her hearing perfectly.
L. M. Moore, of Council Bluffs, Iowa, of deafness and head noises when he was so deaf he could not

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5. Applying the Absorb-ent Liquid Behind the Ear.



6. Taking Internal Remedy, in Form of Tablets.

DR. W. O. COFFEE, 324 Good Block, Des Moines, Iowa. The bath is first among baby's cases suspect constitutional trouble

3. Using the Absorbent Inhaler, an Import-ant Factor in the Cure of Deafness. necessary attentions, so we treat of it back of it. first. The wise mother uses a warm woolly bath-apron and nothing made at home competes with those made by the manufacturers of the famous Gertrude Suits mentioned before by us. To see him cooing and cuddling in its cozy depths will rejoice any mother's heart. Soft towels should be used and soft bath cloths, one for face and one for remainder of body. I would always use that famous brand of tar soap known as Packer's, because it simply has no rival though several very good tar soaps are made. soap should be used on baby's hair for its results are wonderful and a good heavy head of hair in childhood is a beauty indeed. It also preserves the golden tint much longer. For the body, especially where any blood taint exists, I am firmly set in my opinion, although it is certain that several brands are very good. Any one desiring to learn name of the soap for body use referred to can send address to me. The use of powders I do not approve of but for chafing have other remedies. Keep baby's clothing in a covered box with a sachet containing some sweet odor such as lavender; this will cause him to always seem sweet and fresh. Above all keep no soiled clothing on baby. Change bibs, slips, diapers, etc., quickly. A soaked bib is a foul smelling thing. Do not present such a baby to your husband each day, nor have everything wildly upset if you wish him to enjoy being home with you and the baby.

1. The Horror and Dis-advantage of Deaf-

Spraying the

#### Mother's Scrapbook.

A nursing mother needs a slight Young authors aided, MSS. examined, corrected bust support. As in many cases the milk flows too freely a home made substitute is probably better, being easily changed and washed. Every mother needs advice when nursing her first child as to how to hold child, how to dry milk at weaning time and how to support bust during nursing to prevent the ruin of the beauty and shape. Never let child drag downwards on nipple. Never let milk cake the breast hard. Never use roughness in applying breast pump or hot water bottle when it is necessary to remove milk from breasts. A long bandage of muslin may answer in lieu of all other supports. A very important rule is-wash the breasts often with borax water, especially in hot weather.

The most important duty to see to as soon as a child is born, after being laid in a soft, old, warm blanket, is to treat its eyes. The majority of eye diseases arise from this neglecta very serious thing. In all maternity hospitals this point is emphasized.

#### The Day that Summer Died.

The day that summer died we saw a change The day that summer died we saw a change Creep slowly o'er the sunshine in her face-A fleeting beauty, dim and wholly strange, Unlike the brightness of her earlier grace. We felt a chill in every breeze that blew And saw across the meadows green and wi A veil of frost that silvered all the dew—The day that summer died.

The day that summer died a red leaf fell
From out the maple's green and stately crest,
And all the slender fern leaves in the dell
In robes of white and palest gold were dressed.
A late rose shed its petals one by one,
The poplar stirred its trembling leaves and
sighed,
A glowing dahlia blossomed in the sun—
The day that summer died.

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#### VICK'S FAMILY MAGAZINE

#### Where Did it Go?

Where did yesterday's sunset go, When it faded down the hills so slow, And the gold grew dim and the purple light Like an army with banners passed from sight? Will its flush go into the goldenrod, Its thrill to the purple aster's nod, Its crimson fleck the maple bough And the autumn glory begin from now?

Deeper than flower fields sank the glow Of the silent pageant passing slow.

It flushed all night in many a dream, It thrilled in the folding hush of prayer, It glided into a poet's song, It is setting still in a picture rare; It changed by the miracle none can see To the shifting lights of a symphony; And in resurrection of faith and hope The glory died on the shining slope.

For it left its light on the hills and seas That rim a thousand memories.

W. C. Gannett.

#### Learning One's Letters. (Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

The modern way of teaching children to read without learning to name the letters of the alphabet doubtless has its advantages, and at least it is a great saving of drudgery on the part of the teacher, but it seems to have some disadvantages, also.

Sooner or later in life it is often necessary to know whether F comes before or after G, or Z before X, but so far as my knowledge goes, there is now no time in the school life when this is taught. Dictionaries and encyclopedias follow alphabetical arrangement, every filing system, every catalogue, in fact, almost all lists are alphabetically arranged, but, if one does not know his alphabet consecutively, what is he going to do?

Perhaps the proper arrangement of letters comes to some by intuition, but, there certainly are cases where it does not come in that way or any other, and inaccuracy of work and consequent aggravation of spirit are the inevitable results.

I believe that children should be taught the alphabet consecutively for their own sakes and for the sake of those who, in after life, may be associated with them in business. Just at what stage of their education it is best to do this is open to discussion, but I think it should be done early and F, B. thoroughly.

#### Dishwashing.

"I enjoy everything about housekeeping except washing dishes. always did hate to wash dishes," said a young housekeeper a few days ago, and this dislike is a common one. Much of the drudgery of this work may be relieved by providing the proper utensils for it. Plenty of water and plenty of room, a good dish pan and drainer will be needed. Cheese cloth cut in convenient squares and hemmed is an excellent material for dish cloths. Flour sacks that have been washed and boiled to remove the letters are good also, for they are soft and leave no lint. Arrange the kitchen so you can pile the dishes, wash them and put them away without taking unnecessary steps, then you will be ready to go to work comfortably.

Pour a gallon of water into the pan and add a heaping teaspoonful of golddust washing powder. When it has dissolved, put the dishes in, washing the glassware first, then the silver, cups saucers and plates. Wash quickly, rinse in clear hot water and wipe each piece dry. The water should never be hot enough to break the glass nor crack the glaze of the china. By the way, nothing should ever be warmed in platter or bowls, for when the glazing is once injured, the water gets into the porous clay beneath, every time they are washed, and in a short time the place turns brown and the dish is ruined, in appearance at E. J. C. least.

#### BOOK NOTICES.

Cassell's Dictionary of Practical Gardening. Edited by Walter P. Wright. This admirable work on gardening, gives in condensed form the most reliable information on propagation, soil and general culture, as well as lists of the best species and varieties of plants, telling the height to which they grow, the month in which they bloom, their hardiness or otherwise, and the color of their flowers. The leading idea is to choose from the hundreds of thousands of plants in cultivation all that are worthy of being grown, and to tell everything about them that the cultivator is likely to want to know. The Dictionary is an elegant specimen of the book-maker's art. For once the beautiful and the useful are most happily blended. The illustrations, comprise over one thousand excellent photographic reproductions taken direct from nature and twenty fine colored plates. Complete in two volumes, halfleather, gilt top. Price \$10.00 net. Published by Cassell & Company, Limited. New York Officers 43 and 45 East 19th St.

Rural School Agriculture, Bulletin No. 1, University of Minnesota, St. Anthony Park, Min-

This bulletin is an unique attempt to place in the hands of the rural school teacher detailed plans for leading the country pupils to study the things of the farm and the farm home. It was edited by Messrs. Hayes, Robertson and Wojta, but was in part written by other members of the faculty of the Minnesota Agricultural College.

It contains 237 exercises to be carried out by the pupils. Each exercise is complete in itself. It gives the object to be sought, the materials to be used, and the plan in detail which the teacher is to have the pupil carry out in doing the work of each experiment. The materials required are such as may be available at the school, or in the farm home. Price 60c, in lots of five or more, 50c, each carriage prepaid. Address Rural School Agriculture, University Farm, St. Anthony Park,

The Flower Garden. A Handbook of Practical Garden Lore. By Ida D. Bennett. Garden books are plentiful now-a-days, but there is need of them, and we welcome each one that gives truly practical information on raising and caring for plants and flowers. This latest publication is thoroughly practical and will be of great assistance to all who grow flowers, and particularly to those who are just beginning their cultivation. The location and arrangement of the garden with a number of designs for beds; soils; fertilizers; starting seeds; transplanting; the care of house plants; winter boxes; desirable annuals, bulbous, foliage and aquatic plants are a few of the topics The chapter of "Don'ts" is particularly good, and the complete alphabetical index is one of the best features of the book. The illustrations are numerous and very good. McClure, Phillips & Company, New York. Price \$2.00 net.

#### Amended Proverbs.

First be sure you're right, then back up,

All the world's a stage but many of the actors are understudies.

A man is known by the company he works for.

All's well that ends the way you her best. A few weeks afterward she want to have it.

It is more blessed to give than to have to pay for your own gifts.

Easy lies the head that thinks it knows it all.

New York Times.

#### "The Life of the Wake."

This story, said to have originated with Chauncey Olcott, is going the rounds:

"A friend of mine" said the actor 'had an Irish servant girl who one day asked leave to attend the 'wake' of a favorite cousin. The desired permission was granted and Norah graced the melancholy feast clad in

announced to her master that she must leave him within a month.

"Are you dissatisfied with your work or your wages Norah?" asked the master taken by surprise and sorry to lose a faithful servant.

"Oh no sir," said Norah quickly "but I'm goin' to be married to my cousin's widower."

'Isn't it rather sudden Norah?" was the next question.

It's suddint to me, sir," said Norah, twisting the corners of her apron, "but 'tain't to him. He says I was the life of the wake, sir, and he marked me while he was mourning."

New York Times.

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#### Talks About Flowers.

(Continued from Page Six.)

#### Seasonable Suggestions.

September is not the month of roses, yet it is a very. good time to talk about them. In the first place, the small, green rose slugs-the progeny of the ones that appeared in June—are liable to attack the plants at a moment's notice; and late in August one should go over the bushes in search of the pests. You will find them on the underside of the leaves. They are small, green and motionless. Either crush them or apply Paris green in water. About a teaspoonful of the poison in a tobacco pail full of liquid will be right. It is a good plan to apply a preventive dose of in-secticide at this time of year, even if no slugs are in sight. The ones that you kill now will not bother you next June.

Even if the bushes have been well supplied with a mulch of decayed manure throughout the summer, put some more on now. This is to encourage the roses to put forth new growth and accumulate sufficient strength to tide them safely over the winter. Underneath a thrifty bush that has many canes, on which are displayed dozens of rich, healthy leaves, there is pretty sure to be found a large and satisfactory system of roots, and this is exactly what is required to have the bushes a complete success, next year. A rose plant that is starved and neglected stands an excellent chance to die during the winter, while another bush, not any larger or hardier may "come out in flying colors" if well cared for, beforehand, and given plenty of rich, nourishing food. Therefore, apply a generous mulch of decayed stable compost all over the surface of the rose bed. Do it now, and in due time you will enjoy the result. It pays to feed one's roses well and give them extra care and attention. It does not pay to neglect them in any respect.

One method to provide the compost to the plants is to scrape away a portion of the soil from about the plants, and fill in with fine, mellow manure. Or the fertilizer may be scattered over the ground and hoed in. Either way, it will go to the roots and feed them. If the first method is followed, commercial fertilizers should not be used. Hoe the soil frequently, both to keep it mellow and to disappoint every weed that would like to go to seed. You have about three months to get your roses in good condition to withstand the winter. You will not be sorry if you undertake the work and carry it out.

#### Harvest-Tide.

Something is gone from the cycling hours
Wherefore the heart was gay.
Something has vanished, but in its place
Earth has attained to a richer grace, Life to a rarer day.

Falling leaf, from the bursting bud Shaking its pennons free. Sacred fires, like that of old, Not consuming them, ye behold Burning in bush and tree.

Breath of autumn for May-time breeze Whispering life is fair. Golden haze on the purpling hills, Thin mists marking the distant rills, Hushed is the tranced air.

Halting steps for the winged feet Brushing the dews away.
Priceless burdens that make them slow
Render glorious the path the go, Over the sunset way.

Something is vanished, but more ye hold. (Blossom and bloom have died.) Flash of ruby and glow of gold,
Fruitage yielding an hundredfold,
Welcome the harvest-tide.

— Mrs. W. A. Cutting.



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#### **SEPTEMBER**

#### IN THE

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#### The Magic Seven in Floriculture.

(Continued from Page Four.)

Do not fill the spaces among fine plants with those that are sickly and ragged, thus spoiling the appearance of the entire collection. If possible, keep unpresentable plants in some out-of-sight place until they are in a condition to be ornamental.

#### LIGHT

A second rule governing the selection of plants is the quality of light at command. Do not expect plants to reverse their nature for your convenience and then complain of your luck-or lack of itbecause they fail to do so.

If only north or east exposure can be had, select such plants as will grow there better than they could in a stronger light; if an unshaded southern exposure is available, then select such as require strong sunlight to bring out their beauty of bloom or foliage. Many plants that do their best in a shaded light are as beautiful as those requiring the strongest light of a southern exposure, so it becomes merely a question of making selection subservient to location, and the person who studies plants intelligently knows there is practically no limit to those suited to any condition of light where one would think of trying to grow plants.

#### CLEANLINESS.

Cleanliness is as necessary to healthy plant growth as it is to child growth and the rule "An ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure' should never be forgotten. Clean pots; clean foliage; freedom from dust and insects, all depend on constant care and watchfulness, and such care is the price of success. Cleanliness first, last, and all the time must be the watchword of the successful plant grower.

### Beauty and Utility.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

A writer of some note makes the statement that walks and drives impart no element of beauty to a garden. If he is talking about walks and drives brought into the scene merely as objects of beauty -a point he does not make clear-then there might possibly be something in his statement. But walks and drives, as a rule, are introduced into home and other grounds because they are needed; as 'such they may be made to impress the mind with beauty instead of, as too often is the

"Where every prospect pleases."

### FIVE POINTS

#### OF EXCELLENCE

Leaving the center of the city from which you start; reaching the center of the city of your destination; over smooth and level tracks; giving rest and comfort; riding beside running water most of the way; through the centers of population to the gateways of commerce; when you travel by the

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case, detracting from the general delight. Much depends upon the way they are laid out, just as in the vegetable or fruit garden the attractiveness depends a great deal on how the rows are laid out. Garden rows that are straight and parallel may so delight the eye that one may be led to say, how beautiful. Crooked rows, on the other hand, mar the effect-no one speaks of such as being beautiful. Returning to lawn walks and drives, what must be the characteristics of such as shall impart the greatest degree of beauty to the scene? Under some circumstances the straight walk or roadway may not be out of place for good effect, but as a rule it is the well proportioned curve that satisfies the mind as a thing of beauty. A graceful curve always pleases the eye. If therefore the necessary path or roadway in the pleasure grounds is laid out with sweeping curves, such

may in this place be a thing of beauty, as the straight and parallel lines in the kitchen garden are things that gratify the eye. This is not the place to enter upon a detailed consideration of garden corners, but a word may be said on the subject. The curved walk or drive that imparts the largest degree of beauty is not the one having many short and uniform bends, serpentine in character, but such as has no two bends of the same size. That is, if there be a single sweeping curve of considerable extent, as from the street to the doorway, and this extends beyond into one or more bends in succession, the elements of the most satisfactory lay-out are present. It need hardly be said that no walk or driveway, however pleasingly curved, will possess power of imparting beauty if its edges be rough or jagged in outline, or its surface be befouled with weeds or litter. -E. A. Long.

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When within the quiet shelter Of our first small, humble home We had passed a year together-Just we two there-all alone; When that ray of light broke on us And close nestled to your breast The little lad found haven In our paradise of rest— Then a mighty light dawned on me And my heart—rent to the core-Cried aloud, and I was conscious That I'd never loved before,

When I saw your sweet, bright patience Through those many years of care; How you labored for our children— Labored on with whitening hair; When I saw your pain-lined features-Heard your wild, despairing sob As the cold earth struck the coffin Of our first born baby, Rob-Then my love became eternal
And looked forward to the day When there will be no more parting And the mists have rolled away.

As you silent lie before me And I say my last good night, Fifty years of tender mem'ries Surge across my tear-dimmed sight-And in mournful retrospection I recall your words of cheer As our fledgelings, one by one, wife, Left the nest and made it drear-And I know that never yet, Kate, Have I loved you as today While I wait the time up yonder-When the mists have rolled away.

Edward E. Webb, In Elmira Telegram.

#### One Woman's Ways,

Railroad conductors sometimes make mistakes, as anyone else does, and sometimes they give impressive illustrations of their abilities. They are close observers, and their talent in that line is valuable.

in that line is valuable.

Excursionists cause a great amount of extra work at this time of the year, and a few days ago a Grand Trunk conductor saved one of them a lot of trouble. He tore off part of a ticket that a woman handed to him when he made his rounds the first time, and he noticed when he returned the ticket to her that she tied it in her handkerchief. handkerchief.

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"Tell her to look in her handkerchief.'

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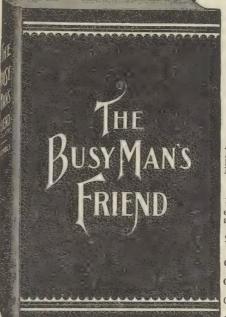
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The waist pattern 4456 is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inch bust measure.

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#### A Smart Summer Frock.

Misses' Tucked Blouse Waist 4466.
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The waist pattern 4466 is cut in sizes for girls of 12, 14 and 16 years of age.

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Five Gored Skirt 4457.



Shirt waist suits of linen are exceedingly smart as well as ideally comfortable. This one is made of the sort known as butcher's in cream white, with a yoke of the same dotted with French knots in Delft blue and outlined with a band of the same, but it is suited to all the qualities of linen used for the purpose, all simple silks and light weight wools.

The waist is new and includes a pointed yoke that can be made of contrasting material when preferred. The skirt is cut in five gores and is laid in backward turning plaits at each seam which extend to flounce depth.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is, for waist 33/4 yards 21 or 27, 31/2 yards 32 or 21/4 yards 44 inches wide, with 3/4 yds. for yoke; for skirt 81/8 yards 27 or 32 inches wide or 6 yards 44 inches wide.

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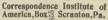
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#### Some Queer Remedies.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

The following remedy for chills was given me by a young man in the backwoods of Indiana: "Take a willow switch" (size not stated) "put it into a gallon of water, and boil down to a quart. Take a pint at a dose, three times a day."

From Louisiana comes the following: "To cure cramp in the limbs, turn the shoes upside down when retiring for the night. This never fails."

A woman from the mountains of Tennessee vouches for the infallibility of the following: "To prevent a child from ever taking whooping cough, give it a drink of water from the first stream it ever crosses." She "had tried this on her Tommy," and though he was seventeen years old he had never had the disease; which she considered proof positive of the effectiveness of her preventive.

The same woman also said: "To stop 'after pains,' turn the head of an axe with the sharp side up, under the bed on which the patient lies. It will cut the after pains."

My five-year-old daughter has the asthma. The following remedies have come from widely different sources:

From a Pennsylvania Dutchman; 'Have the child sleep with a puppy. The puppy will take the disease, and the child will get well."

A lady from New York State, and one from Vermont, assured me that the following process freed them from asthma in their youth, and advised me to try it: "Stand the child against the north post of a door, and bore a gimlet hole just above her head. Place a lock of her hair in the hole and plug it up. As soon as she grows higher than the hole, the asthma will leave her."

A Colorado man said: "Break eggshells to a powder, mix with honey, and give to her. The shells will cut the phlegm from the bronchial tubes.' (Query: How?)

Here is a Tennessee mountain remedy for yellow jaundice: "Hollow out a yaller turnip. Fill it with water and hang it up the chimney. When the water evaporates, the jaundice will leave."

Mrs. Mary McCrae Culter.

#### When Crickets Sing.

When crickets sing and asters bloom in all the woodland ways.

And smoke hangs low, and far away the fields are lost in haze; When in the corn there is a voice that whispers:

"Summer's gone," And here and there a red leaf glows, first lights

of autumn's dawn; Then, soft as milkweed down, on me Is laid the hand of mystery.

The woodland wavers; at my feet I hear the tall grass sigh;

A low sweet music of regret runs through the earth and sky: The creek is caught in a net of mist whose silvery

meshes gleam, And my heart teats low, and I walk as one walks wandering in a dream;
For, soft as the milkweed down, on me

Is laid the hand of mystery.



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For two orders for Vick's alone or one of the clubs, we will place you on our list for Vick's one year and mail you one of the Fisher Charcoal Art Prints.

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#### Comfort Me With Apples.

Comfort me with apples!
Bring the ripe, mellow fruit from the early Sweet Bough

(Is the tree that we used to climb growing there

And Russets, whose cheeks are as freckled and

dun As the cheeks of the children that play in the

Comfort me with apples!

Comfort me with apples!

Gather those streaked with red that we named

Morning Light. Our good father set, when his hair had grown

The tree, though he said, when he planted the

"The hands of another shall gather the fruit." Comfort me with apples!

Comfort me with apples! Go down to the end of the orchard, and bring The fair Lady Fingers that grew by the spring; Pale Bell-flowers and Pippins all burnished with

gold,
Like the fruit of the Hesperus guarded of old, Comfort me with apples!

Comfort me with apples!
Get the sweet Junietta so loved by the bees, And the Pearmain that grew on the queen of the

And, close by the brook, where they hang ripe and lush,

Go shake down the best of them all, Maiden's Blush.

Comfort me with apples!

Comfort me with apples! For lo, I am sick, I am sad and opprest;

I come back to the place where, a child, I was

Hope is false, love is vain, for the old sights I

And if these cannot comfort me, then I must die! Comfort me with apples!

#### The Leaves.

Now pile in all the leaves you can get, or all you can find room for. You have seen them blowing about the roads and fields so regularly and for so many years that you have come to think that is all they are good for, and it would not be proper to remove them from the places where they form such an important feature of the autumn land-

But it will pay to gather them, and in several ways and for many uses. They make good bedding for all animals, are not in the way of handling the manure at any time. They are just what you need to put on the floor of the henhouse for the hens to scratch for their grain among. They are better than straw for nests for breeding sows, as they will not tangle the legs of young pigs. They are useful to cover plants which are left in the garden through the winter. Cabbages which have not headed in the fall will grow all winter and come out with heads in spring if covered with leaves deep enough so they will not freeze. A man feels better when he goes to bed in a cold night in winter if he has given his animals a good bedding of some dry material like leaves, - Weekly Union.

### A Woman's Invention.

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